

REFERENCE



COLLECTIONS

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of life.

John Stahl from Bavaria, Germany, built the first house, where the Red Lyon Hotel stands. About the time the house was completed, Mr. Wright, who was connected with the railroad project, proposed to sell him the lot occupied by the Brant House for three hundred dollars. Said, Stahl, "I have only \$27 to my name, I can't buy it." "Yes," said Wright, "you can." Over yonder," pointing in the direction of where the old round house now is, "a shop is to be built in which three hundred men are to work, and the lot will increase in price a couple of hundred dollars every year in a number of years to

come," but Stahl did not buy.

"Now," said Stahl, speaking to the writer of this article, "the Railroad Company have five thousand men at work here, and more are to come to work in the new shops below town. If I had taken Wright's advice I would have made money. I would be a rich man if I had known what was to take place here.

Stahl's life in Altoona has not been a failure. He has been a useful man and measurably a successful one in the acquisition of property. He told us the first property he bought was from an Irish boss of Sarah Furnace for whom he built a house. The boss had no money, but instead offered several lots on 13th street, which Stahl accepted as pay for his work. He built himself several houses in one of which he lives in these declining days of his old age. He was the builder of the splendid Catholic church and Convent near Gospel Hill, and when the projectors of the buildings were discouraged for want of funds, and proposed to give it up his indomitable perseverance induced him to say: "No I'll not give up, I'll go out myself and beg for money for the cause before I give up." So much for the courage and zeal of the first builder in Altoona. He exhibited to us a photograph of decorative work executed by his own hands in the German Catholic church, that stands not far from mud Town Hill, an elevated piece of ground from which may be had, a splendid view of this city that is built over more hills than were in the eternal city of Rome.

the counties of

Altoona has thirty churches.

Four banks.

Twenty-eight saloons.

Forty lawyers and as many doctors.

Sixty-eight schools with more than one hundred teachers.

A number of Catholic parochial schools.

Seven newspapers, four of them dailies.

It has many gambling devotees.

It is a good place for real estate investment.

It has a debt of four hundred and ten thousand dollars.

It has all kinds of club and secret society organizations, and the day we were there, last Thursday, May 15,

THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE,

on the corner of 12th street and 11th Avenue was dedicated. The temple is said to be the most complete in matters of appointment outside of the Masonic Temple in the City of Brotherly Love. There were present at the dedication members from all parts of Central Pennsylvania and from other parts of the state—Masons of all degrees from Entered Apprentice Degree, on up through all the degrees of Solomon's Temple Masonry, through the Royal Arch Degree, into the Christian Crusader Knight Templar degrees were there.

Altoona is up to the latest American management for the grading and paving of streets to head off jobbery in such enterprises. The jobbery in the grading and paving of streets had become so common that it became necessary to take the matter out of the hands of the city or town council and lodge it among property holders. No street can be graded or paved without first obtaining the consent of two thirds of the owners of property along the street upon which the improvement is proposed to be made. When two thirds of the property holders give their consent by petition for the grading and paving of a street the work may be done, not at the general expense of the taxpayers of the city, but at the expense of the property holders along the street on which the improvement is made. The Juniata Valley

ames.
said at EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

met in the office of the Altoona Tribune at 10 o'clock a. m. The editors present were Dern of the Altoona Tribune. Conrad of the McVeytown Journal. Shrom of the Newport Ledger. Allison of the Juniata Herald. Jackman of the Mifflintown Democrat and Register. Goodlander of the Clearfield Republican. Lindsay of the Huntingdon News. Brumbaugh of the Huntingdon Advance. Pannabaker of the Coalport Standard. Speedy of the Port Royal Times. Schweier of the Juniata Sentinel and Republican.

President Dern called the meeting to order. Secretary and Treasurer Conrad read the minutes of the past year with a statement of the financial standing of the Association, which announced a surplus in the Treasury, all of which was approved.

H. C. Dern was re-elected President, Dr. A. B. Brumbaugh, Vice President; E. Conrad, Secretary and Treasurer; and George Shrom, G. B. Goodlander and W. M. Allison, executive committee. Messrs. Dern, Brumbaugh and Conrad by virtue of their office are members of the executive committee.

Winchester, Va., was selected as the objective point for the next annual summer excursion, and from August 26th to 30th as the date.

Butz of the Huntingdon Globe was in town, but came to late to participate in the meeting of the Association. McPike of the Times is a Catholic, and his church that day held special ascension day services and that kept him away. Private business kept Slept of the Mirror, and Dunmire of the Independent, and the other Altoona editors from the meeting. We are indebted to editor Swartz of the Tribune for courtesies.

ON THE STREETS

one frequently meets Juniata county people, who all speak highly of their new home. Among those whom we met, were E. W. H. Krider, foreman of the Independent, Adam J. Greer, who until last August was a writer on the Tribune. The journey of sixty four years in this vale of tears have left their imprint on Greer. He has been an invalid with bronchitis since last October. Dave Sie-

ber is keeping house and boarders and has a job at \$2.00 a day, at work on the Brant house. C. C. Kloss, is pleased with his new home. Dr. Books reports the practice of medicine as in a flourishing state. Telegraph operator Fasic, son of John Fasic of Patterson is pleased with his situation in the Mountain City. Dr. Weidman's appearance and bearing indicates that he has become one of the substantial men of the young

city. Andrew Todd is a trusted employee in a large mercantile house. We are indebted to him and his friend W. T. Cutler for favors. Henry Scholl, John Gushard, Geo. Heck and Wm. Wagner of Mifflintown; were in attendance upon the dedication of the Masonic Temple. Richard Vaux of Philadelphia was in attendance upon the dedication, and when he made it known that a despatch had been sent him, that the Republicans in the late Randall district would not nominate a candidate against him for the special election to Congress, the Democratic brethren of the fraternity were immensely pleased, and all the others said, good.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

BY HON. JOHN DEAN,
President Judge of the 24th Judicial Dist.

Ladies and Gentlemen:—The morals of a people are to be found in their laws. Statutes and the decisions of courts disclose what progress has been made towards the enforcement of the perfect law, "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you." This is the standard aimed at by Christian people. Since the "Great Lawgiver" announced this rule of action, the efforts of His subjects to render obedience to it have, for periods, been few and weak; at other times many and strong. How near they came to it, and how far they fell short, or how much nearer one nation or people came to it than another, is learned from the records of their courts. None have attained unto this standard; perhaps no court ever will; still, everywhere courts are trying to reach it, and, so long as the aim is high, a greater degree of progress will result than if they did not strive to reach an unattainable standard. This is shown by the progress already made; an advance so marked, even in the comparatively short period of the last fifty years, as to be a matter of exul-

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tion to every true lawyer.

The part borne by the several courts of this county in this general "move forward" has been no insignificant one. In its beginning, and for many years afterwards, the new and delicate questions adjudicated; the efforts to give effect to that clause of our constitution which declares that—

"All courts shall be open; and every man for an injury done him, in his lands, goods, person or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law, and right and justice administered without sale, denial or delay,"

Have left a clear impress on the law of the Commonwealth. This has been due to the learning and ability of the lawyers of the court; to the intelligence and honesty of the jurors; but in an especial degree to the strong sense of justice, manifested in all their rulings, by the two eminent lawyers, Judges Black and Taylor, who first presided.

THE PRESIDENT JUDGES OF THE COURT.

While we may not concur with Judge Coulter in his application of the proposition to the facts of the particular case, no Judge ever uttered a more evident one than he when he said, in *Cadbury vs. Nolen*, (5th Barr, 320), "The apprehension, or more properly the comprehension of actual fraud, depends much on the moral sensibilities of the individual who contemplates the facts." This case, as my brethren will remember, was tried before Judge Woodward, in Clearfield county. Judge Coulter more than intimates that Woodward's moral sensibilities were such that he could not apprehend gross fraud; and this was said of an eminently just judge, who was afterwards Chief Justice of our Supreme Court. But few lawyers will approve the correctness of the application of the proposition to that judge, on the facts, of that case; but, as a general proposition, applicable to every case involving the rights and liabilities of parties, every lawyer feels its force. For, whether applied to the prevention of actual fraud, to the determination of conflicting claims, to the adjustment of mutual rights, or the prosecution and punishment of law breakers, a just decision depends much on the "moral sensibilities of the individual who contemplates the facts." The moral sensibilities of these two distinguished judges (Black and Taylor) were in no wise dull. Keenly alive to the wrongs of suitors, filled with a perfect hatred of all unfairness, over-reaching and unconscionable conduct, possessing great learning and ability, under their eyes the judgments of the Court were entered.

At the time of the erection of Blair county Judge Black was the President Judge of the 16th Judicial Dis-

trict, composed of the counties of Franklin, Bedford, Somerset and Fulton, and in the act erecting the county it was provided that it should form part of this District. Thus Judge Black became our first Judge.

The original act (see P. L. 1846, P. 64,) provided that the first court should be held on the fourth Monday of July, 1846. From that time up to and including March term, 1849, Judge Black presided. By this act the terms of the courts were to commence on the fourth Mondays of March, July, October and Dec., but a supplement (see P. L. 1846, P. 398,) directed that after the first court the summer session should commence the 2nd Monday of June. Judge Black held twelve terms of the courts, when the Legislature, by the act of 5th of April, 1849, making a general re-organization of the judicial districts of the state, declared the counties of Huntingdon, Blair and Cambria should compose the 24th Judicial District, thus detaching this county from the 16th, Judge Black's district.

Of Judge Black, in presence of this audience, as a lawyer and a judge, I need not speak at length. Whether as advocate at the bar, presiding in the Common Pleas, Judge and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Attorney General of the United States, delegate at large to the Constitutional Convention of 1873, everywhere, he has honored himself and has reflected honor on the people who honored him. His legal opinions and arguments are the delight of the lawyer, for it may be said of him, as Coke said of Littleton: "He cites not many authorities, yet he holdeth no opinion but is proved and approved by these two faithful witnesses in matter of law, authority and reason." While his name and fame are national, we claim the distinction of saying he held our first court; he was our first judge.

As we have seen, on the 5th of April, 1849, the 24th district was created. George Taylor, then a young but able lawyer of the Huntingdon bar, was appointed by Governor Johnston President Judge. He held his first court in this county on the 2nd Monday of July, 1849, the summer term having been again changed back from June to July. Under this appointment he continued to hold court until October Term, 1851. In the meantime the amendment to the Constitution had been adopted (called amendment of 1850,) which provided for the election of the Judges of all the courts; that their terms should be ten years; that the terms of all judges then in office should expire on the first Monday of December following the adoption of the amendment, and that the terms of those

elected should commence at the same time. The first election after the adoption of the amendment was held in October, 1851, so that Judge Taylor's commission by appointment expired on the first Monday of December, 1851; but at the election previous, having been nominated by the Whigs, he was elected for the term of ten years. His opponent was the Democratic candidate, Thomas P. Campbell, of Huntingdon, now of Davenport, Iowa. Judge Taylor had a majority of 354 in Huntingdon county, 649 in Blair, and Campbell 499 in Cambria, making Taylor's majority in the district 504. Under this election he served his term of ten years, and at the end of it, by the unanimous request of the members of the bar of the district, he was again a candidate and was re-elected without opposition. At the end of this term, he ran as an independent candidate against the nominees of the Republican and Democratic parties, and failed of an election. He died of paralysis in November, 1871, in the 59th year of his age.

It seems like repeating "a tale that is told" to speak of him in presence of the bars of Huntingdon, Cambria and Blair, in whose presence for twenty-two years he presided. During all this time, but especially during the first years of his judicial life, his judgments were so just, and the opinions by which he sustained them so lucid and logical, that they are mile stones in the law, and models of judicial writing. In that long time his integrity was never questioned, even by disappointed lawyers or litigants. Mistaken he may have been, doubtless at times was, but he always sought to arrive at the truth—tried to hold the scales even, and if, at times, he erred, or at times was procrastinating in C. A. V. decisions, it only shows he was not perfect. Sometimes he would try the patience of suitors and counsel by cogitating over a difficult legal question for months, and this, one failing (or virtue as some contend,) as a Judge, is the only one in the years I practiced before him I ever heard complained of. A man of wonderful patience and self-command, he was of most sensitive temper if this peculiarity were even hinted at. I remember in 1860, on the trial of an ejectment, Langham and wife against Stifler *et al*, involving the question as to whether a sale by the Sheriff on execution of the life estate of the husband in the wife's land, prior to the act 1848, would pass the wife's right of possession, he so forcibly impressed me with his sensitiveness on this subject that I never forgot it. I was counsel for Langham and wife, the plaintiffs; our esteemed Chairman, Mr. Banks, was of counsel for defendant: the evidence was all in and

facts undisputed. Mr. Banks opened and argued to the Court, that whatever doubt there may have been as to the regularity of such sales prior to the 24th of January, 1849, at that time the Legislature passed an act declaring all such sales good and valid. In reply I cited *Gorden vs. Ingraham*, 1st Grant, in which the Supreme Court declare (Judge Black dissenting,) the act unconstitutional. Judge Taylor said he was not clear that case ruled the one before him, but he would reserve the point and direct a verdict for the plaintiff. I being rather young, rose to my feet and mildly suggested that my client, Solomon Langham, had been trying for twenty years to get his land, and therefore we would like 'His Honor' to decide the point *now*, as it was very inconvenient to wait longer. In an instant, in the most emphatic manner, he brought his fist down on the bench and in a loud tone said: "I will decide this point when I am ready and when I please, and will not be driven by any lawyer." Startled by his tone, manner and expression, confused and not a little frightened, I sat down. Not aware before that of his extreme sensitiveness, I could not gather my thoughts sufficiently to make the proper apology and disclaimer; but my kind hearted antagonist, Mr. Banks, who was older and knew "many things" I did not, seeing my discomfiture, but not rejoicing thereat, rose and said that the opposite counsel had no intention of saying anything insulting, nor of even intimating any want of promptness in the court's decisions upon reserved points, but, as he well knew, I had a very pestering client, of whom, doubtless, I was anxious to be relieved by a decision one way or the other. In a moment the storm was over and the atmosphere calm and bright. The Judge announced he would take the papers and decide the point as soon as he got home. He decided it in about three years by entering judgment in my favor on the verdict. It was his one failing—one to which our profession seems peculiarly prone—the one possessed, in a marked degree, by one of the greatest Judges of this or any other Commonwealth, the late Judge King of Philadelphia. But in the long years Judge Taylor sat on this bench how seldom, comparatively, was there any exhibition of this infirmity. With patience inexhaustible, he sat pleasantly through the most tedious trials, seemingly only anxious that all the law and evidence bearing on the issue should be carefully heard and considered. He would patiently hear, but would not be pressed to a hurried decision. And woe be unto the verdant young lawyer who attempted to press him! The older ones never tried it. But when we

look over the records of his twenty-two years' work on the bench of this court, when we see his judgments and opinions illuminating these records with the clear, pure light of mercy, goodness and truth, the little blot dropped there by his one infirmity is scarcely visible. "He delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him."

I was elected Judge in 1871 and have been in office five years and six months.

ASSOCIATE JUDGES.

The first associate judges of the court, were George R. McFarlane and Daniel McConnell, Democrats appointed by Governor Shunk the 8th of June 1846, to hold until the next session of the senate of Penna. Judge McFarlane was re-appointed and confirmed by the senate on March 11th, 1847. The other vacancy was filled by the appointment of Davis Brooke on 28th of January, 1848. James Gardner was appointed 10th April, 1851, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Judge McFarlane and was elected for the full term the following October, with Levi Slingluff of Martinsburg. Both resigned before the expiration of their terms. These are about the only examples of resignation by judges within my knowledge. Jas. D. Rea, Democrat, was appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Judge Gardner on the 25th of July, 1854, and James L. Gwin to fill that occasioned by resignation of Judge Slingluff in March 1855. Judges Rea and Gwin held office until October, 1855, when David Caldwell and John Penn James were elected each for the full term of five years; in 1869 Adam Moses and Samuel Dean were elected; in 1865 Judge Moses was re-elected with B. F. Rose of Altoona; in 1870 George W. Patton and Joseph Irwin were elected; and in 1875 the present associates Charles J. Mann and Samuel Smith. With the exceptions of Judges McFarlane, McConnell, Brooke, appointed by Gov. Shunk, and Judge Rea, appointed by Governor Bigler, all these officers have been Whigs or Republicans. Whatever may have been their politics, it has been the united testimony of the bar that, one and all, they performed faithfully and impartially their duty. Of those dead, honor and respect followed them during life; of those

living, no blot touches their integrity. They have the respect and good wishes of a profession which learns, as no other one does, to appreciate unblemished official life.

LAWYERS.

From the 4th Monday, 27th day of July, 1846, until the 30th of April, 1877, the last term of court, exactly 200 lawyers have been sworn to the bar. Of these only 72 have been resident within the county. On the first day of the court, 27th July, 1846, there were 48 admissions, commencing with Hon. Moses Canan, of Cambria county, and ending with Andrew G., afterward Gov., Curtin, of Centre county; and during that term of the court there were 51 admissions. Out of these, however, there were only 12 resident of the county and they all in Hollidaysburg. Calvin, Kline, J. M. Bell, Kemp, Coffey, Brotherline, Lowrie, T. Banks, Cresswell, Blair, McMurtrie, Hofins. At October term following, Robert Wallace, father of the present United States Senator Wallace, was admitted and opened an office. Maj. Williams was admitted the December following. Up to 21st March, 1855, when I was admitted, nearly nine years after the organization of the county, only 22 resident practicing lawyers had been sworn to the bar, and of these eight had retired from practice or removed from the county, leaving fourteen. There are now in active practice forty-one. Among the names of those admitted from other counties who either were, or afterwards became, prominent in the law or in politics, I notice Ephraim Banks, father of our chairman, Auditor General of the State, Judge Alexander King, Judge Kimmel, John G. Miles, Senator Scott, Judge Hale, Gov. Curtin, Francis Jordan, Chas. Shaler, R. L. Johnson, John Cessna, Ross Forward, Judge Pershing, Gen. John Williamson, Judge Hall, Judge John P. Blair, Harry White, Samuel T. Brown, Charles J. Faulkner, and Randolph Tucker of Virginia, Thaddeus Stevens, Judge White, Judge Pettis, Hon. R. M. Speer, Judge Thatcher, John M. Bailey, Thomas M. Marshall, Joshua F. Cox, and a number of others. Among them was John Blodgett, of Bedford, noted for his acquirements in general literature,

his poetical tastes and wit. There was also admitted during the first year of the court a lawyer noted in the whole profession along the Juniata Valley, Mr. Isaac Fisher, of Huntingdon. In person, mind and manners, he was peculiar. He was a member of the Huntingdon bar, and during the first year after the organization of the county attended all the courts. In person he was huge, weighing about 300 pounds; generally neat in dress, seldom appearing in court without gloves; of very extensive reading, with no end of research in the particular case on trial. He was the horror of the court because of his unlimited citation of authorities. Always bland and respectful, but having a secret contempt for any lower one than the Supreme Court he frequently said he would rather have one or two "good exceptions" in the court below than a verdict. He was a thorn in the side of Judge Burnside, and was about the only lawyer he was afraid of. While a law student I was present at the trial of several cases in which he was counsel. One case between John Dougherty and Jack, Wigdon & Co., about the year 1853, was on trial. I, a student, was sitting near the counsel table drinking in all the law I could catch. Mr. S. S. Blair and Fisher were of counsel for Dougherty. A legal question arose during the trial, which was likely to prove disastrous to Dougherty's case. Mr. Blair was on his feet arguing the point with his usual force; the judge seemed to be against him, when I heard Dougherty say somewhat excitedly to Fisher: "Why don't you say something Mr. Fisher?" "Why, my dear Sir," he replied, "whenever I attempt it that young man of yours takes the words right out of my mouth." He was the man who, after the jury had rendered a verdict against him, and in face of the charge of the court, moved at once for a new trial, which was instantly granted, when he turned to the jury, who had not yet left the box, and, with a wave of his hand, said: "You twelve lawyers can now go home!" He died about the year 1857. His last appearance was in the court at Huntingdon, on the hearing of a motion for a new trial. He always seemed to be moving for new trials. He had

argued his reasons; the court's intimations were strong against him. Mr. Fisher suggested that the jury must have totally misapprehended the evidence. Judge Taylor said: "I see, Mr. Fisher, you have but little confidence in modern juries." Said Mr. Fisher, with a bow and the utmost blandness: "And very little more in modern courts." With this parting shot at courts and juries he left the court room never to enter it again.

Of the lawyers resident here Hofius, James M. Bell, Geo. A. Coffey, and the two Hammonds, Jolly, Louis H. Williams, Dunmire, Harris, and Rawlins, ten in all, are dead. Hofius died during the sitting of the July court in 1859. He was a man of most brilliant parts. A most effective advocate before a jury; clear, logical, and at times emotional, he had wonderful power. Judge Black once said of him that he was the most effective cross examiner he ever heard interrogate a witness. He died at the early age of forty. I cannot end this notice of him with more fitting words than those from Gray's elegy, used by Mr. Blair in his eulogy of him at a meeting of the bar after his death:

"No further seek his merits to disclose,
Nor draw his frailties from their dread
abode,
There they alike in trembling hope repose,
The bosom of his Father and his God.

James M. Bell died in 1870. He had retired from active practice many years before. He was a man of great intellectual power, but seemed to lack the capacity to express his ideas with directness and point. Nevertheless, when in active practice, he was acknowledged by the profession as a very able lawyer. His name is connected as counsel with some of the most important causes tried in this and Huntingdon counties.

Geo. A. Coffey removed to Philadelphia in 1855. He was District Attorney of the county from 1852 to 1854, acting instead of Joseph Kemp, who had been elected. He was U. S. District Attorney for the Eastern district, at Philadelphia, during the war, and died about the year 1865. His acquirements were very extensive, and his talents of the highest order. Fluent, poetical, imagination unsurpassed, his addresses to a jury

were intellectual treats. His talents, however, seemed better fitted for the rostrum than the court room. As an orator, he was learned, eloquent, and instructive; but he lacked that practical force, that homely illustration, which are so convincing with a jury.

Of those living, and who have not removed, we have them around us. Which of the three gentlemen, Banks, Calvin, or McMurtrie, can of right claim, by reason of years, the honor of being the father of the bar, I shall not undertake to decide. All were here before the county was organized, and, from appearance, there is not much difference in their years. Mr. Blair although admitted on the first day of the court, was then a young man; and, while I have heard him addressed during the trial of a cause by Mr. Calvin as *my venerable friend*, in years he is far behind either of the others. However it may be as to years, I can only say to the younger brethren, their unexceptionable lives and professional success are worthy of all admiration. Neff, Hewit, Landis and myself were admitted about the same time. We all claim to be young men. Of the many still younger, so full of hope and promise in the profession of their choice, time will not permit me to speak. We who are older can only hope that on some appropriate occasion, thirty years hence they, in the prime of physical and intellectual manhood, will be able to speak of us as the departed or older lawyers, who brought no disgrace on a noble profession, and as having made the world a little brighter and better by living in it.

CASES TRIED.

Of the cases tried, and suits entered, in the thirty years since the organization of the county, when compared with the population, the aggregate seems enormous. In the Common Pleas, including judgment bills, appeals, and certioraris, there have been entered, 39,205 cases; in the Quarter Sessions 2,619; in the Oyer and Terminer, 99, making altogether 41,923. In this are not included the large number of estates partitioned or appraised in the Orphans' Court, nor the trust accounts of assignees and other trustees, settled in the

Common Pleas. There have passed through the Orphans' Court, for confirmation and allowance, 1770 accounts of executors and administrators, many of them involving protracted litigation before auditors' reports.

Judge Black took 44 verdicts, Judge Taylor 878; and there have been taken since, 495. Of course this, as every lawyer knows, does not show the extent of actual work done in the trial of causes; for many of them, after hours, and sometimes days, of trial, "go off," either by non suit or settlement of the parties.

By the act of Assembly erecting the county all undetermined issues between parties resident on the territory out of which it was formed, were to be transferred to the records of the new county.

The first suit in the Common Pleas is one to No. 43, August Term, 1826, of Huntingdon county, transferred. It is an action of debt by John Wilson and Richard Buchanan, executors of Dr. John E. Buchanan, dec'd., against William Smith, executor of John Steel, dec'd. When it was brought, in 1826, Judges Burnside, Adams and McCune were on the bench in Huntingdon county. Smith is marked Attorney for plff., and Allison and Steel for def't. As appears from the record, more than 70 continuances were marked during the twenty years it stood on the Huntingdon county docket, and 5 after its transfer to Blair. It was then stricken from the record, under a rule of Judge Black's "because not moved in by either party for one whole year." This, after so long a life, was a most 'lame and impotent conclusion.' One feature worthy of attention is, that, after pending all these years, in the courts of the two counties, the entire bill of costs taxed is only \$21.63, of which amount the sheriff gets \$2.65, and the Prothonotary \$8.65.

The first case brought originally, in this county, is a libel for divorce; subpoena issued 23d of June, 1846, by Mary Armstrong against her husband, John Armstrong. T. J. Coffey is attorney for libellant. John Cox, esq., was appointed commissioner to take testimony, and a divorce was decreed thereon by Judge Black the 25th of March, 1847. The entire

costs were \$7.75. Divorces have become more costly since.

In the first year of the court 661 cases were entered in the Common Pleas, including original writs, certioraris and appeals. In 1856, ten years later, 1,090; in 1866, ten years later, 2,717. Many of the cases included in this last number are judgments on Building Association bonds, but still, the natural increase in legal business, the last ten, has been much greater than in any preceeding ten years.

Since the organization of the county many important cases, both civil and eriminal, have been tried, and in a number of them writs of error were taken, and they were reviewed in the Supreme court.

At May term, 1848, of the Supreme court the first three cases were argued: Shoenberger vs. Mulholland, Lowry vs. McMillan, and Long vs. Labor. The first was a feigned issue to determine the right of Mulholland to construct a lateral railroad over Shoenberger's land and the amount of damages to the land owner. The case was with Mulholland and the judgment was affirmed. The second was an action on the case for breach of promise of marriage, in which the plaintiff recovered and the judgment was affirmed. I notice Mr. Banks was counsel for plaintiff in error. Judge Coulter, in the opinion of the court, says: "seventeen errors are assigned, but the counsel, with a laudable economy of the time of this court, declined to press any but the twelfth;" and then goes on to show there is nothing in that one, of substance. The third is Long with Labor, a case stated, on the construction of a will. The question was whether the children of those children, dying after the testator, but before distribution, should share in the surplus. Judge Black decided they should. Mr. Calvin, of counsel for the other children, took a writ of error, and Judge Gibson reverses Judge Black. Mr. Banks was Mr. Calvin's antagonist. Mr Calvin for plaintiff in error, cites not a single authority, but he says, as the main point of his argument: "The will shows it was written by an ignorant man, and in ascertaining the intention, the court will pay but little attention to the technical terms used."

Mr. Banks cites thirteen authorities. But, although he had the authorities, Mr. Calvin seems to have had Judge Gibson. While acknowledging the force of the authorities, he scrambles over them all, and treats the words of the will, to which they are applicable, as "an accidental form of expression adopted by an unskillful and illiterate penman." These cases are all reported in 8th Barr.

The next cases argued in the Supreme Court were at May term, 1849, Hewit vs. Huling, (1st Jones, 27).—George Buchanan and his son Alexander sold a tract of land, which belonged to the son, to Geo. W. Henry for \$2,600. Alexander, at the time, was not of age. Henry paid \$800 on the purchase, but, unable to pay more, got General Porter Wilson to advance the balance, about \$1,900.—After Alexander Buchanan came of age he conveyed the land, with consent of Henry, to Wilson, upon the condition that he should stand seized of the land until he was re-imbursed the money advanced to Henry. A judgment having been entered against Henry, his interest in the land was sold upon it and purchased by Huling, who took possession. Wilson alleging he had not been paid the money advanced by him to Henry, brought an ejectment against Huling and Henry, and they confessed judgment, to be released on payment of \$925, amount still due Wilson, within nine months. This was not paid, and three days after the expiration of the nine months Wilson assigned all his interest to Peter Hewitt, who issued Hab. Fa. Pass. and turned Huling out, who afterwards brought ejectment, which was the issue for trial. The question was whether the judgment in ejectment by Wilson, on the expiration of the nine months, without performance of the condition, gave him the land absolutely, or whether the deed to him from Henry to secure his advances only gave him right to the possession until he was paid out of the profits. Judge Black, in a very lucid opinion, decided the case was with the plff., Huling, and substantially directed a verdict for him. Hewit took the case to the Supreme Court. A number of errors were assigned by Mr. Miles, his counsel all of which were over-ruled and the judgment affirmed.

But, in the opinion affirming the judgment, the Supreme Court say: "Instead of framing a verdict in an equitable ejectment in such a way that an absolute title vests in the vendor on failure to pay at the time fixed in the verdict, we recommend that, if not paid at the time, it should be in a decree of sale, either by sheriff or master, under the directions of the court, for the benefit of the vendor and vendee, and all persons having an interest in the proceeds." Here, in this case in the Supreme Court from this county, we find the important suggestion of a decree of sale in equitable ejectments; a feature in this class of cases which from that day to this has been the practice in Pennsylvania.

The next cases are Royer's and McNamara's appeals from decree of court on exceptions to a guardianship account. Mr. Blair was counsel for the wards and Mr. Cline for the guardian. The questions involved were, substantially, what was the extent of the liability of the guardian for his wards' money, lost by his negligence? As an example of vigorous expression, in plain English, Judge Coulter's opinion is very interesting reading.

The next case is G. L. Lloyd vs. John Barr. Miles and Calvin were for plaintiff in error, and Bell for defendant.—In the court below, Judge Black directed a verdict for Barr, the plaintiff below, holding an award of arbitrators offered in evidence as an adjudication of the facts then in issue and constituting an estoppel by former judgment between the same parties or their privies. From the large number of authorities cited by Mr. Calvin, and his elaborate argument in his "paper book," he must have felt pretty sure of a reversal. The judgment of the court below was affirmed, doubtless much to his disgust.

The next case is Patterson vs. Lytle and Lytle vs. Patterson, two writs of error to the same judgment. Calvin was for Lytle and Banks for Patterson. Both parties assigned errors to the judgment of Judge Black on the exceptions to a report of auditors, who had stated an account between the parties on a judgment of *quod computet*. Judge Coulter says, in his opinion revers-

ing the judgment, that the case was "vehemently" argued by Lytle's counsel, Mr. Calvin. But I suppose the mild argument of Mr. Banks convinced the court, for his client got the judgment. All these cases were argued at May term, 1849, of the Supreme Court and are to be found reported in 1st Jones.

The next cases are argued at May term, 1850, of the Supreme Court. Fisher against Patterson is the first. The Legislature, by act of 16th April, 1840, had declared: "And if any person, not being licensed as aforesaid, shall be found hawking, peddling, or traveling from place to place to sell any goods, wares, or merchandise, every person so offending shall be liable to a fine of \$50, to be recovered before a Justice of the Peace." George W. Patterson ran a trading canal boat along the line of the Pennsylvania canal, stopping from place to place, selling goods for money or taking produce in exchange. He had no license. Fisher sued him for the \$50 penalty before a Justice and got judgment. Patterson appealed and the case came on for trial before Judge Black. The Judge in his charge says: "Unless the averments that defendant is a hawker and pedlar are true, there can be no recovery. What is a hawker? One who sells goods by outcry in streets. What is a pedlar? One who carries about small commodities for sale on his back, or in a wagon or cart. These are the popular significations of the words and the only definitions given them by lexicographers. The Legislature hardly intended to use them in a larger or different sense. Penal statutes must be construed strictly.—Your verdict ought to be for defendant." The plaintiff took a writ of error, and Judge Rodgers, in an opinion reversing the judgment, says: "In the construction of acts of Assembly, although our lexicographers are not to be utterly disregarded, yet the definitions of legal terms are rather to be sought in our books of reports, elementary treatises, and in our law dictionaries." And he holds that the words of the act are sufficiently comprehensive to embrace a canal or any other kind of boat.

At this time also was argued Hileman against Bouslough, in which it

was finally settled that the rule in Shelley's case was the law of Pennsylvania. The case had been tried before Judge Black, and he held that Hester Bouslough, under a deed from her father, Joseph Rentsch, took an *estate tail*, which descended to her eldest son, to the exclusion of her other children. A writ of error was taken and the case was argued by Miles for plaintiff in error and Bell for defendant in error. Mr. Miles, under the plea that there was a distinction between this case and Shelley's; that, as there, there was a limitation over in default of issue, and in this none, the rule should not be extended. To sustain this proposition he made a most virulent, able and elaborate argument against the rule itself. But the Supreme Court held the difference between the two cases was immaterial and would not change the operation of the rule. Judge Gibson, in delivering the opinion of the court affirming the judgment, says: "The rule in Shelley's case ill deserves the epithets bestowed upon it in the argument. Though of feudal origin, it is not a relic of barbarism, or a part of the rubbish of the dark ages. It is part of a system; an artificial one, it is true, but still a system and a complete one." Although, in subsequent case, the reasoning in Hileman vs. Bouslough is modified, and it seemed once as if the application of the rule to a particular class of cases might cease, the Supreme Court in still later cases has declared its adherence to Hileman vs. Bouslough in no uncertain terms. The paper book of Mr. Miles in this case is a work of industry, extensive research and learning such as I never saw in any other case. Of itself it is a complete treatise on the law of "estates tail," with a citation or reference to almost every important case where the rule had been applied in this State or England. His professional conduct in that case is worthy of imitation by every young lawyer. The case is reported in 1st Harris, 344; Gibson, Rodgers & Bell concurring in affirming the judgment; Coulter and Burnside dissenting.

Jackson vs. Summerville was also argued at this term, and is the first of Judge Taylor's cases which appears in the Supreme Court. This was an

ejectment, brought by Summerville for a tract of land on part of which Gaysport is built. Mr. Blair and Thaddens Stevens were counsel for Summerville, and Miles, Calvin, Banks, Hofius, Henry D. Foster and others for Jackson. The judgment was for plff., in the court below. A number of errors were assigned, but the one most persistently urged was that a judgment of a court of record was, even where actual fraud was alleged, a legal estoppel as to all those claiming to have been defrauded and who were parties to the judgment. But the Supreme Court held that even a judgment in a court of competent jurisdiction can be inquired into and overturned in a collateral proceeding, where fraud has entered into the procurement of it. The trial of this case excited great interest, both in the profession and out of it. The ablest counsel in the State took part. Mr. Blair, then a young man, by his masterly efforts, both with court and jury, placed himself in that place in the profession he has ever since held with so much learning and ability. A second ejectment was brought and the case again tried, but after the jury came in to court, and before delivery of their verdict, a non suit was taken.

Many cases were tried the years following, and many of them were removed to the Supreme Court, but as they possess no special interest, and involved no new question, I pass on to the case of Walker vs. Reamey, 12 Casey, 410, which is a leading case under the married woman's act of 1848. Mr. Banks was for Walker and Calvin for Reamey. In affirming the judgment of the Court below, the Supreme Court undertakes to restrict the words of the act which declare that a single woman's property shall continue hers as fully after marriage as before, and say, when the wife purchases property and pays for it, the presumption is that the money was her husband's even though she had received money from her father prior to the act of 1848.

Lloyd against Farrell is a case more curious than important to the profession. Farrell conveyed a tract of land to Lloyd for the consideration of \$6,000; paid \$2,000 in hand and gave judgment bonds for \$4,000. Farrell's two sisters recovered two-thirds of the land in ejectment on the ground that their brother held two-thirds of the land in trust for them, it having been purchased originally by their father. This judgment was affirmed by the Supreme Court. On

application of Lloyd the judgments for the unpaid purchase money were then opened and he was let into a defence as to the two-thirds. The question on which the case turned, was, whether the purchaser took the title from Farrell at his "own risk." The testimony of William M. Lloyd, a witness to the article of agreement, as to what took place at the time the agreement was executed, was received under exception by Lloyd. The verdict was for Farrell. Lloyd took a writ of error, and the Supreme Court, in an opinion by Judge Strong, reversed the judgment on the ground that Judge Taylor erred in admitting the testimony of Wm. M. Lloyd.—The case was again tried, and the same testimony offered, when it was excluded, and under the direction of the Court a verdict was rendered for Lloyd. Farrell now took a writ of error, assigning the rejection of the testimony as error, and Judge Taylor was again reversed, in an opinion by Judge Sharswood, for not admitting it. Judge Taylor having died in the meantime, and I having at one time been counsel for Lloyd's administrator, Judge Butler of Chester county again tried the case, and there was a judgment for Farrell. The case was again taken to the Supreme Court and judgment affirmed. Mr. Blair was counsel for Lloyd and Hall for Farrell.

Langham vs. Stiffler, before referred to, has been the Jarndyce and Jarndyce of the Court. Brought originally in 1843, in Bedford county, it was transferred under the act creating the county to these records.—Solomon Langham married a daughter of one Dickey, who in 1836 died intestate, leaving a tract of land of about 200 acres, and six children.

The land was appraised at about \$1,500, and Langham, in right of his wife, accepted it at the appraisement and entered into recognizance with one Baird as surety, to pay the other five heirs their shares. He failed to pay, and judgment being entered on the recognizance the land was sold and bought by his surety, Baird, at Sheriff's sale. He sold a considerable portion off in lots, and the village of Puzzletown was built upon it.—All this before 1843. In that year Langham and his wife brought ejectment in Bedford county for the undivided one-sixth, alleging that the recognizance given by her husband only bound the shares of the other heirs taken by him, and the Sheriff's deed passed no title to her sixth.—The case was tried before Judge Black, and while the defendants admitted they took the fee of only the five sixths, yet alleged the sale passed the life estate of the husband, and the wife could have no possession during his life. It was replied, there

could be no sale of a life estate on a *fi. fa.*; that sequestration was the only proceeding which would reach it. Judge Black so decided and directed a verdict for plaintiff, but at the same time entertained a motion for a new trial. Before the motion was argued the act of 24th January, 1849, was passed, validating all sales of life estates on *fi. fa.*'s. theretofore made. A new trial was granted. In the meantime Gordon vs. Inghram was decided, declaring the act unconstitutional. It was again tried in 1860, with a verdict for Langham, on which judgment was entered in 1863 by Judge Taylor. Mr. Banks took a writ of error, which was *non prossed*; then Solomon sued for mesne profits, and after a fierce contest got a verdict for three or four hundred dollars, which he alleged his lawyers kept for fees. He then commenced proceedings in partition, which were enlivened by a number of prosecutions for assault and battery, instituted by him or the citizens of Puzzletown. The decree on the proceedings in partition was taken to the Supreme Court and affirmed. Then Solomon brought about fifty separate suits against the inhabitants of Puzzletown for rents. These were all instituted before an Alderman and judgment was entered for plaintiff. The defendants appealed or certiorated the proceedings. While these were pending, about two years ago Solomon at the age of eighty died. His wife soon after followed, and his heirs, and those concerned on the other side, referred all matters in dispute to A. S. Morrow, Esq., whose award was to be final and conclusive. He, a few weeks ago, after hearing, made a final award. I suppose from the organization of the county to his death, Solomon never missed a Court. I remember very well one Monday morning, before Judge Taylor opened court, he asked: "Is the crier here?" when the reply was, yes; then he asked, "is Solomon Langham here?" On receiving the same reply, he directed the crier to call the court. Poor old man! He was guileless as a child, yet such a fondness for litigation I never saw in living man.

There have been tried in the Oyer and Terminer thirty cases of homicide. Of these eleven were found not guilty; three, Alexander Hutchinson, James Shirley and David McKim, were found guilty of murder in the first degree. The first, Hutchinson, was tried in 1850. After sentence his friends induced the Legislature to interfere by attempting legislation to relieve him from the death penalty. Nothing effective was done; but the warrant for his execution was withheld until Gov. Johnston, during whose administration he was convicted, was out of office.

Gov. Bigler declined to issue it, because, as he alleged, it was a duty of his predecessor which he was not bound to perform. Hutchinson remained in jail until 1853, when he escaped. Shirley was tried at March Term, 1853, for the murder of his wife, and executed in August of that year. McKim was tried at April Term, 1857, for the murder of Norcross, and executed in July following. The other convictions in the Oyer and Terminer were either of murder in the second degree or manslaughter.

There were two hearings on *Hab. Corp.* in the case of alleged fugitive slaves; one before Judge McFarlane, in 1849, and one before Judge Moses, in March, 1862. In each case the detained persons were discharged. In 1855 a man named Parsons, from Virginia, who attempted to seize a colored man in Gaysport, on the claim that he was a fugitive slave, was indicted for abduction. John Randolph Tucker and Charles J. Faulkner came here to defend him; a true bill was found, but a *nolle pros.* was entered by the District Attorney, Mr. Hammond.

There are quite a large number of cases, both civil and criminal, a notice of which would be interesting to the lawyers, and many non professional people, but I cannot undertake to refer to them in a short address.

Those mentioned will suggest the general nature of and amount of litigation carried on in the several courts since its organization.

OFFICERS OF THE COURT.

The first District Attorney was Col. Cresswell, appointed by Gov. Shunk. He was succeeded by Mr. Hofius, appointed by Gov. Johnston, who filled the office until 1851, when the office was made elective. Mr. Kemp was elected by the Whigs; but his health failing soon after, Geo. A. Coffey performed the duties of the office until 1854, when Essington Hammond was elected. At the expiration of his term Mr. Hewitt filled the office two terms; then John H. Keatly almost two terms. He resigned the last year of the second term, and I was appointed to the vacancy until next election; was then elected and served one term. Mr. Alexander was then elected and served one term; then James F. Milliken, the present District Attorney, was elected.

The office of Prothonotary of the Com. Pleas, Clerk of the Orphans' Court, Quarter Sessions and Oyer and Terminer, filled by the same officer, has not had many incumbents. First, Jeremiah Cunningham was appointed in June, 1846, to serve until next December. At the October election of that year Joseph Smith was elected and served a term of three years;

then George W. Johnston a term of three years; then Hugh McNeal one term; then Joseph Baldrige two terms or six years; then A. S. Morrow four terms or twelve years; then James P. Stewart, present officer, two terms.

The office of Register of wills and Recorder of deeds was first filled, by appointment of John M. Gibbons, to hold until December, 1846, or until his successor be qualified. At the election in October of that year Eph. Galbraith was the Whig candidate and Samuel Smith the Democratic. Galbraith died the day of the election, before the votes were nearly all polled. Smith claimed the office on the grounds that he had a majority of the votes cast for a living man, although a majority of the people voted for Galbraith. Judge Black declined to decide in his favor, and Gibbons held the office until the next election, when L. H. Williams was elected. He held the office nine years; was succeeded by H. A. Caldwell, who held it for six years; and he by D. M. Jones, who held the office for nine years, when the present officer, A. Liugenselter, was elected. His term expires this year.

The first Sheriff was Jeremiah Betts, appointed by Gov. Shunk. Then follow him, in order, Samuel Royer, Thomas Reese, William Reed, George Port, James Funk, Samuel McCamant, Martin Bechtel, John McKeege, Henry B. Huff, Alexander Bobb, James M. Stiffler, the last the present Sheriff.

TOWNSHIPS AND BOROUGHES.

The territory in the original act, and over which the Court had jurisdiction, embraced Greenfield and North Woodberry Townships of Bedford county; Allegheny, Antis, Blair, Huston, Tyrone and Woodberry Tps. in Huntingdon; also, that part of Morris Township in Huntingdon county west of a line run by William Reed, surveyor, to be called Catharine Township. Hollidaysburg and Martinsburg had already been incorporated as Boroughs. The Townships formed since the organization, are Juniata, out of Greenfield, in 1847; Logan out of Allegheny and Antis, in 1850; Taylor out of North Woodberry and Huston, in 1855; Freedom, out of Juniata, in 1857. Altoona was incorporated as a Borough in 1854, and came under a city charter in 1871. Tyrone became a Borough in 1857; East Tyrone in 1873; Newry in 1876. Eleven Constables made returns the first day of the Court, twenty-three, now.

COUNTY SEAT AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The original act required the Governor to appoint three non-residents of the county, Commissioners to run

the county lines and fix the county seat. He appointed Henry McBride, of Westmoreland, General Orr, of

Armstrong and Judge Christy, of Juniata counties, who fixed upon Hollidaysburg as the county seat.

The first Court was held in an old Methodist church, which stood where the present Methodist church now stands. Mahony's stone house, alongside, was rented at the rate of \$50 per year and used as a jail. A contract was made in 1816, with Dan. K. Reamey, then a prominent builder, for the erection of the Court House and jail on the ground covered by the present Court House. The contract price for both was \$11,998.50, but because of changes and extras, the amount paid was \$14,576.18. Both were finished and occupied by June term, 1817. As you are all aware, both, years ago, became entirely insufficient for the wants of the county. A new jail was erected at an expense of over \$100,000 in 1863 and 1869, and the old Court House lasted but a few years longer. And although twenty-five or thirty years is not an old age for public buildings, yet a glance at the growth of the county in population and wealth in that period reveals, at once, the causes which demanded their destruction and the erection of new and better. The men who designed these buildings did not foresee the rapid growth of the new county in those particulars which are prolific of litigation.

In 1816 only 2,187 votes were polled, indicating (at five to the voter,) a population of about 10,000. In 1856 there were polled 3,520 votes, showing a population of 18,000. In 1866 there were polled 6,288 votes, pointing to a population of 32,000. In 1876 there were polled 8,720 votes, indicating a population of 44,000, four times greater than when the county was organized. In the meantime the assessed valuation of property far more than doubled; its cash value has doubtless trebled.

The cost of the present building, with all its surroundings and conveniences, is very close to \$139,000. It cannot exceed \$140,000. Our records, whose preservation is worth millions of dollars to the people, are now secured in fire proof offices and vaults. For the sessions of the courts, for the deliberation of juries, and for the detention of witnesses, we have rooms spacious, comfortable and convenient. Long after we are gone this building, in all its strength and beauty, will stand as a monument to the public spirit and enterprise of the people who authorized it, as well as an indisputable evidence of the architectural talents of him who designed it, and the mechanical skill of those who carried the design into execution.

We have met to-day, as lawyers and citizens, to dedicate it to its appropriate uses—the administration of justice between man and man. What we *now* say or do, will soon pass from the memory; but what we say or do within these walls hereafter, will not be forgotten; the fruits of our words and conduct will appear in ineffaceable lines upon the records of our courts; will be cut deep in the hearts and lives of those who shall here appear to have rights determined and wrongs redressed. May we so perform our part that we shall reflect honor upon an honorable profession; and so perform it, too, that, when called to appear in a Higher Court, there to be inquired of, we shall be ready to answer, although with awe, yet not with fear: "What Thou gavest us to do, with the light we had, we did as best we could."

At the conclusion of the Judge's address, and after music, Hon Samuel Calvin was introduced. He said that he was assigned a place on the program because he was the oldest member of the bar, but he wanted the ladies to bear in mind the difference between the oldest member of the bar and oldest man practicing at the bar. His address was full of reminiscences many of them of a highly humorous character—concerning Judges Taylor, Burnside and McCune (associate) and the older members of the bar. We are sorry that we have been unable to secure a full report of the same for publication.

Speech of Hon. J. S. Black.

Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen:—I am the victim of a contrivance that I am sure the most of you will not approve of. I told your committee of arrangements, in language too plain to be misunderstood, and I am sure it was not misunderstood, that I would come here on their invitation upon one condition, namely: that I was not to be asked to open my mouth in the way of making a speech. After that intimation the invitation was renewed and I am here upon that implied condition. This paper (holding up a program of the exercises including a speech from Judge Black) which surprises me very much, considering where it came from, I did not see until I got to the town—until I came into the court house here, where I found myself knocked down for a speech. (Laughter.) Now this makes it—take it altogether—absolutely necessary that I should appear before you, not to make a speech, but for the purpose of apologizing for not making one. That is all I am here for. I think that I am entitled fairly to a great deal of your sympathy for am I not in the interesting position

meanment of a much injured and very ill used gentleman? (Laughter.) I will tell you the reason why I very properly declined to make any speech on this occasion. I am sure you will appreciate my reasons. I said that Blair county might make and ought to make orations for herself, and the committee of arrangements, or the gentleman who was conducting the correspondence for the committee, and who had their full confidence, and who has the full confidence of this meeting, as he is its president now, replied and assented, saying that Blair county could and would speak for herself but she desired that I should be present.

Now the members of the bar of Blair county have, among other qualities, that of remarkable fluency and readiness. I have often envied the gentlemen whom I see around me now the possession of that gift which nature has denied to me—we call it the gift of the gab, [laughter] the faculty of speaking readily and fluently upon any side of any case upon the shortest possible notice. [Laughter.] I could take any one of the gentlemen I see here, and upon tapping them, wisdom and eloquence would flow out of them in a strong stream as from a full fountain, and flow on until you could manage to close up the vent somehow, and it would always be good, smooth and consistent. [Applause.] On the contrary, for some reason or another, it has been my misfortune not to be so.

I do not perform well in what orators call demonstrative oration—that is, the sort of speaking which has no particular object or purpose [laughter] except that of talking. [Laughter.] A very distinguished gentleman, Mr. Marshall, of Kentucky, whom you have all heard of, was called upon on an occasion like this to address an audience for which he had a very high respect, but he said he had nothing to say to them—no particular subject that he wanted to speak to them about or that they wanted to understand upon which he could give them instruction. They told him that he should come forward and make a few general remarks. Well, he said he would do that—"he would take his position on the outer edge of created space and crack away at all eternity." [Laughter.] Now, I cannot do that, because my intellectual running gears would give out before I could reach the outer edge of created space and I think that all eternity would be rather too much for me. [Laughter.]

I have given a reason why I think the people who belong to the county of Blair ought to do their own speaking upon this occasion. It is because I add nothing to the force and what has already been said. That address of Judge Dean's

as the most perfect that I could have conceived of, [applause] and so with those of the other gentlemen who have spoken. You all know what has been said about the attempt to gild refined gold, to paint the lily, or add a perfume to the violet. That is exactly the sort of absurdity that I would be guilty of if I attempted to improve upon the speeches that have already been made. One thing, I ought to say, and I do not know very well how to avoid it, or at least some notice of it, and yet it is very awkward to touch upon. You remember the closing remarks of Mr. Calvin.—To be called upon, under these circumstances, and in that way, to address an audience, is, I admit, the highest honor that could be bestowed upon me. I would not ask for anything that could possibly gratify my own vanity or self esteem more than to have so highly appreciated the efforts that I made to do justice when I presided in the courts of this county—I would not ask for anything stronger than that—I do not suppose it possible for anybody to regard the honor of it more highly than I do that. I was here 30 years ago; began more than 30 years ago, and was here, I believe, about three years altogether. During that time I did the best I could under the circumstances. You have had, since that time, several successors to me; you have had the fullest opportunity of contrasting their merits with my demerits, and if, after all that length of time, you can look back with approbation and with pleasure upon what I did, I have very great reason to congratulate myself. But as to Mr. Calvin I must say that he is extravagant. I have no answer to make to him except the one which Lord Byron made to Jeffrey. Jeffrey was the editor of the *Edinburg Review*, and he published in that journal a very laudatory critique upon the third and fourth cantos of *Childe Harold*. The *Review* was sent to him and he was asked what he thought of Jeffrey's now? He made the reply which I would make to Mr. Calvin. He said: "As to that Jeffrey, he is a devilish discerning fellow; [laughter] he has found out my merits." [Applause and laughter.]

As I am up I may as well make one practical remark. If I do not make it you will be sure to forget it. You will go away and never think of it again. It is this: You have erected a court house which is beyond comparison the most perfect structure of its kind in this country. It reminds one of the description that Horace gave of the woman that he admired more than any other—*simplex munditiis*—simple in the abundant wealth of its beauty.

There is another thing that you

will not forget, and I am sure that the Judge who preside in this court will not permit it to be forgotten, neither will the gentlemen of the bar who practice before him permit it to be forgotten, namely, that this building is dedicated to the administration of justice, which is the greatest of human concerns. The most important part of the machinery of justice is the county courts—the courts of common pleas—these courts whose function it is to take original cognizance of all cases affecting life, liberty and property and to do justice between man and man. All the other machinery of our government is made for the purpose of bringing a competent judge upon that bench, and twelve honest men into that jury box in order that they may do justice. For that you make a legislature; for that you have a congress; for that you have a union of the states; an executive department; an army and a navy. The ultimate object of it all is that justice shall be administered between the people of a neighborhood. As long as you can maintain perfect purity in the judiciary and have justice administered promptly and speedily at home it does not matter very much—that is it is not a thing of vital importance how the other parts of your political machinery go on; and whenever there is any serious corruption or wrong by which the scales of justice do not hang with an even balance in these courts of original jurisdiction, you are in the worst possible condition in which you can be placed.

Now, gentlemen, have I made a sufficient apology for not making a speech? If I have not, why I will have to apologize for *that*. [Laughter.] If there was anybody here who would undertake to speak evil of the Blair county court or its bar, or to falsify its history, or to say that the members of this bar were not the best men in the world, then I would have an issue which I could take up with them, and I think I could keep up my side pretty well. [Laughter and applause.] But I have nobody to fight! I am, therefore, in a situation somewhat like that of Jemima Wickersham, a female prophet who made her appearance in western New York. She said she was able to walk upon the water miraculously, and called divers persons to witness the performance. They assembled in large numbers, and just before she made preparation to step out on the lake she asked the crowd there assembled if they believed she could do it. They told her that they thought she could not. "Then," she said, "you have little faith—a generation of vipers, who seek a sign and shall find none." Therefore she would not walk upon the water that day. [Laughter.] She tied them again,

however, another day, and she put the same question to them, and, knowing what sort of answer had defeated them before, they answered affirmatively, that they believed she could. "Very well, then," said she, "there is no use to work miracles in your presence, you have faith enough!" [Laughter.] Now I think you all have faith enough in your Judge, and faith enough in your bar, and faith enough in yourselves to get on very well without any exhortation from me, and therefore I bid you an affectionate farewell. [Long continued applause.]

At the conclusion of Judge Black's remarks various persons were called on for speeches, as Col. R. A. McMurtrie, Judges Orvis and Hall, and Messrs. Orbison, Williamson, Johnston and others. The majority of those called out refused to respond. Gen. Williamson delivered an address sparkling with that wit for which he is so famous, while the remarks of R. L. Johnston, of Cambria, were intensely humorous and highly enjoyed by the audience. On motion of John Brotherline, Esq., the meeting adjourned, and the formal dedicatory ceremonies were over. In the evening the building was illuminated from top to bottom.

Remarks of Hon. S. S. Blair.

On making the motion that the Court do adjourn, Hon. S. S. Blair spoke as follows:

May it please your Honors:—It has been the general expectation that the session of the Court to-day would not be for business but for the purpose of taking formal possession of this new and elegant building provided for the courts of the county. It has been thought not inappropriate or out of harmony with the functions of the court that some official recognition of this event should be made. I beg leave to congratulate your honors, my brethren of the bar and the public that we have at length come into possession of our new Court House, so admirably adapted in all respects for the discharge of the public business. Its strong walls, its symmetrical structure, its complete ventilation and its artistic decorations are all highly creditable to the public spirit of the people of the county, to all the officers of the county who were charged with the duty of constructing it, to the architect who designed it, to the contractor and workmen who brought it to completion. They did their work very well, sir, but that is not the full measure of praise to which they are entitled.

It is a source of gratification to us that a public building, designed for the administration of Justice, has been built without even a complaint of malversation in office, or other

dereliction of duty upon the part of those connected with it. The course of public corruption has flowed in so many places so evenly that whenever public works are designed or contracted, they are, somehow, powerfully suggestive of public plunder. We have heard of this evil even in the quiet and sober ways of country life, where we are accustomed to suppose that the seductions which are quickened into activity and intensified in populous towns, have no force upon official virtue.

Let us be thankful, then, sir, that we are free from the shame of speculation. There is not in this beautiful structure, from turret to foundation, one of its shapely stones, which, if it could speak, could reproach an officer of the county, or any connected with its construction. In very early life we are apt to suppose that praise of what is thought to be such a homely and common virtue as honesty is idle; but as we advance a little in life we get over that notion.

The pleasure which we enjoy in coming into our new house is not so much enhanced by a contrast with the old one as with the temporary accommodations to which we have been shifted for the last two years, where public business has been conducted with great discomfort to us personally. Indeed, the old building had many good parts about it, notwithstanding it was very plain and unpretending in its proportions. And then too, sir, it had its full share of local associations. We all had pleasant memories connected with it. It was a treasure house of good things to us, for many of us had spent the whole of our professional lives, thus far, there. We had met associations there which were interesting to us; companionships which are dear to us, and the remembrance of which will last while life lasts; and the remembrance of which ought now, sir, to awaken within us fresh desires to devote ourselves anew to the noblest and the grandest task that is assigned to man—the *administration of justice according to the law*.

You, sir, have had but two predecessors on the bench which you now adorn, and one of them is not. For many years we witnessed the judgments—the just judgments—of Judge Taylor. We witnessed his clear perceptions, his luminous statements, his terse, concise logic, his sterling, stout integrity, his keen sense of right and his great hatred of wrong. These are, indeed, cardinal virtues. The other, we are all thankful, is still with us, and I am pleased to see him gracing this occasion by his presence to-day. I remember, sir, when he came into the court house—the old one—it was then new. He had been sitting in the basement of an adjoining

church. We had no formal dedication of that building; but as I was a witness of all his judgments, I may very freely say that he did his full share in dedicating that building by laying justice to the line and judgment to the plummet with an even and a steady hand. And I recall, sir, with gratitude, the kindness and the acts of encouragement which he showed to the younger members of the bar. I remember one of them, sir, and I am tempted to state it. When this county was organized, the dockets which were certified from Huntingdon and Bedford counties were crowded with old causes in the hands, of course, of the old lawyers. We young ones, then in that period of professional life when flowing fees are in the distance, would come together term after term, in the vain hope of getting our causes tried, for they were necessarily new and stood at the foot of the calendar. And so we sat, from term to term, hope deferred and heart sickened, until at one term, late on Saturday night, I came before him with some trembling and apprehension, with an order of Lord Mansfield, which I had found in one of the volumes of Burrough's reports, wherein he directed that the young barristers should be called for motions alternately with the older ones. (They had previously been called in the order of their seniority, and the younger ones were much in our case.) Well, we handed the order to the Judge and he very promptly ordered that our cases should be put down in the same way, and we had it turn about with the old lawyers. And you may depend upon it, sir, that while many older ones stared at it roundly, it was a jolly order for us younger ones.

He has long left us for other walks where he has met with a greater share of public attention, but I venture to say that he never served the state better than when he sat here in the comparative obscurity of the Common Pleas. I see his step is less elastic. He has lost the early prime of manhood which he bore then, but he has its compensation in that which should always follow age: love obedience, honor, troops of friends.

I see here assembled many of our professional brethren from adjoining counties, more than are accustomed to be with us at the regular sessions of our court, and we extend to them a kindly greeting, as we shall always do when they meet with us. We trust at all times to treat them alike as brethren of a common household, and to share with them the amenities of professional intercourse.

Of course, sir, the kindly interchange of civility among professional brethren, and between the bar and the court, are essential to a just and

dignified administration of the law, and we all know how needful they are for our comfort and our support in the trying emergencies in which every lawyer finds himself, at some time or other, when weighed down with the pressure of heavy responsibilities, and heart aching with anxiety and care, these kindly interchanges of life among professional brethren are indeed to him the "laborum dulce lenimen." The forgetfulness of these kindly amenities would bring down the bar to the level of a mere gladiatorial arena, and necessarily degrade it from its high calling. I say it not with vanity; with a purpose of expanding upon it, but that the thought itself may awaken in us

a renewed sense of our high duties, that the calling to the bar is a high and grand one. It is not, in the vulgar notion, an arena wherein clever dexterity may battle for mere personal success. It is not a place, as is sometimes vulgarly supposed—it is not a place wherein sophistry is to dress up falsehood and wrong in the garb of truth and right. No, no, sir, our calling is a far higher one. It is to vindicate justice, to establish truth, to succor innocence, to maintain the security of private rights, and to serve the State in the way and according to the opportunities which we have, by living in such a way as to establish that supreme regard for law which must, if it settles down into the hearts of the people, be the ultimate security of our free institutions. It is loyalty to these things to which we are called; and, sir, it is to these noble aims that we would this day dedicate this beautiful building; and while I shall not dwell upon the thought, I shall content myself simply with discharging a duty imposed upon me by my brethren in moving, your Honors, for an adjournment.

From,

Times

Altoona Pa.

Date,

Dec 21st 1892

HOLLIDAYSBURG, Dec. 20.

Watches as low as \$2 at Maus'.

Professor Moore has in his possession a newspaper called the Ulster County Gazette, which was published at Kingston and dated Saturday, Jan. 4, 1800. It contains an account of the death of George Washington, which occurred on Dec. 14, 1799, and a full description of the funeral procession. On the first page is printed an account of the battle of Zurich, taken from the London Gazette; letters from congress to the president, John Adams, and his replies, dated Dec. 10, 1799. The last page is filled with advertisements and sheriff's sales. On the inside pages is much foreign and congressional news and a poem written by a young lady on the death of Washington.

The paper, being made of linen, is well preserved. Mr. Moore also has a piece of paper money to the amount of six shillings, dated March 25, 1776. On one side is printed "Six Shillings." "The Counterfeit is Death." These valuable relics are for sale.

From,

Register

Hollidaysburg Pa.

Date, *June 14th 1893.*

9th Pennsylvania Cavalry

RE-UNION OF THIS HISTORIC REGIMENT AT HOLLIDAYSBURG.

Addresses by Hon. A. S. Landis and Martin Bell.

The twenty-fourth annual re-union of the society of Ninth Penn'a Veteran Volunteer Cavalry was held in the Opera House at Hollidaysburg, on Thursday June 8, and the event was one well marked with success. The weather was favorable, a bright sun and a clear blue sky overhead gave every opportunity to the veterans to enjoy the hospitalities of this ancient burg, and of making their picnic at Tussey farm a brilliant feature of the day's success. This old burg is seldom called upon to become demonstrative and roused to a pitch of excitement, but when a camp-fire is to be held, the old flag to be raised on high, and the fife, drum and bugle call the old veterans out, then—why then, sure enough, you see the ancient patriotic fire blaze with a fervor of astonishment that but few would suspect. The stores along the main street, and all business places of the town were covered with bunting, flags large and small representing old and young America—stars and strips, red, white and blue were seen everywhere. Many of the veterans from a distance came on the previous day, and early trains on the day of re-union were loaded with members of the Ninth with their wives and friends. Blair county sent but a few members, Altoona and Tyrone sent some, nearly the whole that answered to the roll-call came from very widely scattered places, both far and near; and of these most of them were men who had attended the majority of camp-fires ever since they began in 1870. One of these was the youngest member,

comrade G. L. Gussman, who was taken prisoner at Thomkinsville, Ky. on July 9, 1862, when only 10 years of age, along with Company I.

AFTERNOON BUSINESS MEETING.

At 2 o'clock p. m. the veterans assembled at Condron's Opera House to transact the usual business of the society, hear reports, collect dues, admit new members, elect officers for the ensuing year, and transact any new business that may be deemed useful and necessary for the welfare of the society. None but members, with their wives and lady friends were present. The chair was taken by the President, I. D. Landis, of Coatsville, Pa., Secretary A. F. Shenck, of Lancaster, Pa. and Treasurer Capt. O. B. Macknight, of Plains, Pa. were also present.

The president opened the meeting with a few remarks expressive of his pleasure at seeing so many of the old faces once more at their annual gathering, after which he called upon chaplain Rev. G. W. Landis, of Newville, who offered up a very impressive invocation for the divine blessing upon all the members of the 9th regiment, both present and absent, and upon the labors of the day. The secretary then called the roll of members over 300 in number, and over 100 answered to their names. He then read letters of regret from absent members, comprising letters from the following: Colonel Thomas J. Jordan, U. S. mint, Philadelphia; Major E. A. Hancock, Philadelphia; L. A. Gratz, Louisville, Ky.; J. A. Sedgwick, treasurer Sedgwick county, Kan.; Charles R. Pinkerton, Minneapolis, Minn.; Oscar W. Johnston, Council Grove, Kan.; W. D. Messimer, Blaine, Pa.; A. H. Ebbetts, Tremont, Pa.; Jackson Kinney, Tyrone, Pa.; George Biggs, Atlantic City; Charles P. Dern, Darlington, Md.

After one or two nominations it was finally decided to hold the twenty-fifth annual re-union of the society at Harrisburg on the second Thursday of June, 1894, and to make a united effort to induce every living member to be present at that re-union.

An election of officers to serve for the ensuing year resulted in the following appointments: President, Major John M. Porter, of New York city; vice presidents, Major John A. Shuman, Lloydsville, Pa.; I. K. Longenecker, Middletown, Pa.; George W. Kuhn,

Altoona; secretary, A. F. Shenck, Esq.; Lancaster, Pa.; treasurer, O. B. Macknight, Plains, Pa.; chaplain, Rev. G. W. Landis, Newville, Pa.; surgeon, Dr. William Rice, Rome, Pa.

A vote of thanks was given to Murray Post No. 39, G. A. R., also to the committee on arrangements, and the ladies of Hollidaysburg. The committee appointed to draft resolutions in memorium of departed members reported the following:

"Whereas the society of the Ninth Pennsylvania Veteran Cavalry has been called upon to pay the last sad rites of respect to our late comrades—Lieutenant C. J. Walther, company D; Joseph A. Cross, company F; Martin Miller, company F; Joseph Williams, company E; H. H. Kreiner, company G, and Major Michael O'Reilly, who departed this life during the past year; therefore be it

Resolved, That we recognize in this act of our All-wise Providence an admonition that we, too, are rapidly approaching the hour of dissolution when we shall, like them, be numbered with the dead.

Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with the families and relatives of our deceased comrades in their bereavement.

Resolved, That as a token of our respect for the deceased, and sympathy for the bereaved, these resolutions be spread upon the records of this society.

I. K. LONGENECKER,
H. H. NISSLEY,
G. W. KUHN,

Committee.

The following were appointed a committee of arrangements for the next re-union at Harrisburg: I. T. Enders, Joseph Potter, H. N. Yocum, Francis F. Hoy, Major C. C. Davis, Frank B. Kinnard and William F. Green. The meeting then adjourned and a procession formed with the ladies leading in the line. The march led down Allegheny street, across the railroad track, along the shaded walks of Gaysport to the Tussey model farm and orchard belonging to Comrade Samuel C. Tussey, where the veterans held a happy and pleasurable picnic. Everything was done that could be done, or that was expected to be done, by comrade Tussey to feast the body with the luxuries of the season. The tables were loaded with oranges, bananas, fruit-cake, ham sandwiches, coffee, ice cream, strawberries, loads of everything, with plenty to spare. In the parlors was an extemporized orchestra who sang "Marching Through Georgia," "Tramp, tramp," the hallelujah song of "John Brown's Body," "Star Spangled Banner," and others. In the back orchard, under the spreading boughs of the apple trees, photographer E. F. White had been engaged to point his photo apparatus at the old veterans, which looked very much like Quaker stove-pipe guns of the enemy at Bull Run. The veterans

gathered into an immense group standing, with the wives and other ladies sitting on the grass in front ranged in three ranks, and some little ones in front.—Two shots of two seconds each were fired at the group in less than five seconds and all was over. The picture is a success, and the members are readily recognized. The camera was readily adjusted without a blur to mar it, and will do credit to the photographer, E. F. White.

At 7 o'clock, the members retraced their line of march, and were met at the opera house by members of Colonel Wm. G. Murray Post, with the Social band, to honor the veterans and extend the line of march along the main street, past the Court House and return. It was then time for the camp-fire, and it was not long before it was all aglow and burning with its usual fervor.

EVENING CAMP FIRE.

This event is always the great source of attraction to the general public, and to the veterans especially, because it is on this occasion they can hear the war stories of their comrades, render old associations, and call up old and dear memories both of the living and dead. The opera house was filled with an enthusiastic audience, every available space for sitting or standing was occupied. The camp fire of the Ninth cavalry is always kept warm, whilst the Social band rendered several fine selections, and the glee club under Mr. Jos. B. Condron's leadership sang out the war time melodies. To Martin Bell was assigned the duty of delivering the address of welcome, which he did in words that touched the heart of all present. The following is the substance of his address:

Comrades and Veterans of the Ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry. "To me has been assigned the pleasant duty of extending a hearty greeting to you and on behalf of the people of Hollidaysburg and vicinity. I say welcome, thrice welcome to our midst. The valleys of Blair county, walled in on almost every side by rugged mountains, have not, for over one hundred years, echoed with the sound of shots fired in battle by warring foeman, and the Indian battles fought here during the revolution are but insignificant when compared with the mighty conflicts in which the gallant Ninth Pennsylvania cavalry fought. Scarcely a physical

vestige of the civil war marks our borders save the old stone fortification, covered with moss and crumbling in decay, in McKee's Gap, six miles away. Thanks to the valor of the union army, those old stone battlements were never called in play; thanks to the heroism of the union soldiers on rebel rode on his raid through our county; no hostile foeman's foot trampled upon our soil.

"You, surviving veterans of the Ninth Pennsylvania cavalry, were an important part of the armies which so protected us; as such protectors we welcome you. We welcome you as Pennsylvanians, who in honoring yourselves honored the Keystone state. We welcome you as members of the Ninth Pennsylvania cavalry, a regiment whose record for gallant achievements is second to the record of no other regiment, infantry, cavalry or artillery, in the entire union army and we trust that your stay among us may be pleasant.

"And it must be pleasure for you thus to meet in annual reunion. What memories and recollections must not arise within you as you greet one another to-day; memories and recollections of gallant comrades who fought where they fell and fell where they fought; memories and recollections of fierce fought fights, patiently endured privations, and glorious victories in the end.

"And now you, as survivors of the conflict, are well entitled to honor from your state and nation and to rest and enjoyment on this day of your annual reunion. Sheathed now are your sabres which flashed on half a hundred battlefields; silent now, yes, possibly rusting in silence; are your carbines which creaked on Perryville's bloody field, in the tangled thickets of Chickamauga, in Averysboro's stubborn conflict. Dead now are your faithful horses which carried you from Louisville to Atlanta, from Atlanta to the sea; from Savannah to Raleigh. Quietly standing in the flag room at Harrisburg are the guidons which led you in many a wearisome march and fluttered over your heads in many a wild and deadly charge.

"For you wars, alarms have ceased and the bugle call no longer regulates your actions. The stirring notes of 'reveille' no longer rouse you at early dawn. No 'stable call' summons you to care for the needs of your faithful horses. No 'boots and saddles' hurries you to prepare for some long and dangerous ride. At evening the trumpet

longer peals out the beautiful and restful notes of 'retreat,' and no evening gun salutes the setting sun, and at 10 o'clock no waiting 'taps' command 'lights out.'

"The bugles of the Ninth Pennsylvania cavalry have sounded these stirring calls, once familiar to your ears but now, perchance, passing from your memories, in the blue grass regions of Kentucky, among the mountains of Tennessee and Georgia; over the rice fields of the Carolinas, and your trumpets sounded the parley which preceded the surrender of Johnston.

"But your bugles are silent now; your arms are laid aside; twenty-eight years ago you returned to your peaceful avocations as citizens of our glorious Keystone state. May this, your twenty-fourth annual re-union, be pleasant to you all. May nothing occur to mar the peace and harmony which exists among you. Veterans of the Ninth Pennsylvania cavalry, again I say to you, one and all, welcome, thrice welcome, to our midst."

The newly elected president of the society, Major John W. Porter, of New York, responded to the address of welcome in a few appropriate words that showed how tenderly the address had touched the heart and feelings of this old veteran. After which Judge A. S. Landis was called to the front to give a sketch of the past services of the Ninth Regiment:

HISTORY OF THE CAVALRY.

"On behalf of the surviving officers and members of the Ninth Pennsylvania cavalry, I thank you for your cordial and generous reception. Twenty-eight years have passed since this regiment was discharged and mustered out of service. At that time their ranks had been decimated by the deadly fortunes of a deadly war; and now, but few survive to relate as living witnesses, the incident and experience of their military life. Their record is a proud one. Its name has become synonymous with courage and constancy, sacrifice and suffering—devotion and death. And when the history of this arm of the country's service has been written, no regiment will be recalled with more lustrous name than the Ninety-second regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers.

"Its organization was authorized by Simon Cameron, secretary of war, and it was first known as the Lochiel caval-

ry. Its members were enlisted from this and twelve other counties, and on the 29th of August, 1861, it was formally organized, with Edward C. Williams as its colonel, Thomas C. James lieutenant colonel, and Thomas J. Jordan as major. Its colonel had already won an honorable name by his service in the Mexican war. Its major, Thomas J. Jordan, afterward became general with a most honorable record. On the 20th of November, 1861, it went by order of the government to Kentucky and reported to General Buell in the department of the Cumberland. Being at once subjected to drill and discipline, it was, on the 10th of January, 1862, ordered to the front and first rendered service in the protection of the Louisville and Nashville railroad.

"In March it went into Tennessee, and in May the third battalion was engaged with the celebrated Morgan's men and defeated them, capturing 300 prisoners and that famous confederate chieftain himself narrowly escaping capture.

"During the summer this battalion under Major Jordan won renown by its repeated and successful encounters with this valorous and famous southern cavalryman. In August the regiment was reunited and it was employed in watching the advance of Morgan and his bands, and guarding the roads in Tennessee for General Buell's advance to Kentucky. It fought the battle of Perryville and received the complimentary notice of General Buell for bravery.

"From December to January 1863, it endured great hardships in crossing the Cumberland and Clinch mountains. Hundreds of miles across these trackless mountains in single file by night and by day were passed.

The Cumberland and Clinch rivers were forded to the Wedango. Here they attacked the enemy, defending a bridge, defeating them, and destroying the bridge.

Then followed other encounters resulting in success, the continual capture of prisoners and the destruction of a large portion of the enemy's railway.

"They recrossed the same mountains, enduring the same suffering from exposure and want of food and rest. Major Jordan then became the colonel and the regiment came under the command of General Rosecrans and at once engaged and drove off that doughty confederate general, Forrest. For eighteen days it withstood with but slim support, the re-

bel army under Van Dorn, Wheeler and Forrest, frequently making attacks upon their strong position. A series of engagements took place and the valorous conduct of our regiment received the

honorable mention of General Rosecrans. Then followed in splendid succession the battles of Rover, Middletown, Shelbyville and Elk River, with the capture of a thousand prisoners and breaking up the enemy's entire cavalry. Pushing on, it captured General Bragg's rear guard and penetrating Georgia, captured the advanced guard of Longstreet and gave Rosecrans the first information of that general's arrival from Virginia.

For all this brilliant service it received the special commendation and thanks of General Thomas. It was magnificent training for Chickamauga, where that deadly and disastrous engagement shortly ensued between the veterans of Rosecrans, Thomas, McCook and Stanley on the national side, and Bragg, Longstreet, Polk, Hill and others on the confederate side. Many of its members breathed their last upon that bloody field, but it was their prowess and devotion that strengthened our wavering line and saved the army from the crushing weight of an outnumbering foe. This spirit of devotion unto immolation was again noticed by the commander-in-chief, and a new glory was added to the name of our cavalry.

Then followed Dandridge, New Market, Mossy creek, Chattanooga, Tullahoma and Murfreesboro. Over and over again it poured its blood upon these southern fields and won the recorded approbation of Van Cleve, Milroy and Steedman. The glory which attached to the name of Grant at Chattanooga was shared by our regiment. This great captain had just come from the field of Vicksburg, and the glory of that wonderful campaign was only surpassed by the brilliance of Chattanooga. These two stars in his crown shone with undimmed lustre. The country was electrified. Hope sprang anew in the northern breast and waited only to be blessed by similar prowess and victory in the east, where yet lingered the waning fires of the rebellion.

"On the 14th of November, 1864, began the great march of Sherman from the Tennessee to the Atlantic coast. The advance of this intrepid soldier across a hostile country, with no friendly support in the rear and an unknown

fate before, was like the march, with spear and chariot, of an Oriental conqueror and his legions to conquer or death. For five weeks this host tramped on, over highways and through forest, through village and city, over mountain and through river, fighting by day and resting by night, till it reached the city of the Savannahs on the wave washed coast. Thus do these cavalry men share the imperishable renown of a soldier whose name can never die, so long as republics continue and deeds of daring win the admiration of the race.

"During the remainder of the year and the early part of 1865 our regiment was industriously engaged in the Carolinas. Success attended every effort. On the 16th of March a severe battle was fought at Averysboro, at which our friend, Captain E. A. Hancock, lost his leg. The last battle of Sherman was that of Bentonville and in this our heroes were engaged. This was said to have been one of the most important victories of the war. Its loss meant the loss of Sherman's army and the probable defeat of Grant before Petersburg and Richmond. But heaven now smiled upon the union arms. The following month Lee surrendered at Appomattox and a few days later Johnston surrendered to Sherman. On the 17th day of December, 1864, John M. Porter, of Alexandria, Huntingdon county, had been promoted to be major of the regiment and on the 14th of April, whilst that officer was in command, the regiment received a flag of truce, under which was a letter from General Johnston purposing to surrender to Sherman. The regiment was the escort of General Sherman to meet Johnston at Burnett's house and likewise his escort, when he again met him to agree upon the terms of surrender.

When the flag of truce was received our cavalymen were in hot pursuit of the enemy, and thus it is seen that this favored and honored regiment was the last to draw their sabers and to fire their guns in Sherman's command upon the confederate foe. On the 18th of July, 1865, it ceased to exist, having first participated in that great pageant at Washington which stands unrivalled as a review by the nation of its scarred and war-worn veterans. Such is a brief reference only to the four years service of this troop. Its survivors are here to-day, and though for a moment I am their mouth piece, I have not and

I cannot refrain from joining my voice with yours and a grateful people in according them my own admiration, my sympathy and my gratitude. They may rightly enjoy a commendable pride in recalling an experience which has become historical and, therefore, enduring. They may, with conscious satisfaction, transmit to their children a name and an example more noble and more precious than the heritage of wealth. Soldiers, for myself, I am honored today by representing you. Like the cavaliers of old, you rode to victory or death. The story of your daring gives a halo to your fame that inspires our admiration and challenges a not ignoble envy. The passing years will diminish your roll, but when at its annual call none shall respond, that story will be garnered in history, and the lustre of its page will not grow dim.

To those who feel an interest in the detailed history of this notable cavalry regiment, we refer them to Bates History of Pennsylvania Cavalry, third volume, where the above items can be found.

Junior Vice Commander of the G. A. R., J. A. Calvin gave also an address of welcome on behalf of Murray Post No. 39, in good old army style that stirred up the heart strings of those he addressed. He didn't believe in forgiving and forgetting traitors. It was christian no doubt, but when he looked upon the the crippled comrades still living, and remembered the scenes of the dead and dying, their still worse mangled bodies, and lastly upon the widows and orphans of the dead comrades, he must confess that it was difficult indeed to forgive and forget those who did it. And everybody there felt that comrade Calvin's heart was in the right place and beat just as tenderly, with as many tender spots in it as the rest of humanity. He recommended a monument should be placed over the grave of every mother and every wife, whose son or husband were offered a sacrifice to save the honor of his country.

Hon. J. D. Hicks responded on behalf of the 9th regiment, and most assuredly it was a splendid extemporaneous effort. Especially his assurance that the veterans need fear no clamour of the demagogues who seek to deprive them of their pensions, and of the honors and just rights willingly and gladly

bestowed by a grateful nation for their services and sacrifices, that can never be measured by a pension as an equivalent. In relation to the use of the cavalry as a department of the army he contended that it was the eye of the country. Go where you would, right or left, during war times, you would meet the cavalry inspecting everywhere and everything. We never knew the true value and use of cavalry until the gallant Sheridan taught both this nation and Europe what a mighty use could be made of cavalry by a general who knew how to handle and use it. Did you ever consider what a mighty engine of war an intelligent and patriotic army really is? The veterans of the G. A. R. was indeed such an army. Every man was a soldier, a general and a patriot, willing to go where ordered, and to either lead or follow the leader. And when asked, who will go and lead or be led, all cried "we are ready," though it might be a forlorn hope involving almost certain death. Again I say, don't be alarmed about the pension threats of demagogues. This God-fearing nation will see to that." After a glowing tribute to this regiment, Mr. Hicks retired amid deafening applause.

Comrade H. Hoy, of Harrisburg, delivered an address that kept the audience in a roar of laughter. Four times he was encored. The boys would have listened to his humorous talk and witty stories all night if time had permitted. Comrade Tearney defined, by a laughable story, a branch of the army known as "bounty lapers." Several other addresses were made and the camp-fire ended, "lights out" was sounded, and the 24th annual re-union was numbered with the past.

S. BESWICK.

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL.

A Leaf From the Life of G. W. Henry, Builder of Plane No. 10, Old Portage Railroad.

Our Hollidaysburg correspondent has transcribed for the entertainment of the TRIBUNE's readers the following:

In the winter of 1831 the legislature of Pennsylvania granted a loan of upward of two million dollars for the extension of railroads and canals in the state, and there was soon thrown into the market a large quantity of work. The first was a road to cross the Allegheny mountain, the most gigantic work of the kind in the United States, a distance of thirty-six miles, commencing at Hollidaysburg at the head of the Juniata canal on the eastern side of the mountain, and ending on the west side

of the village of Johnstown, thus connecting the line of canals from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh. The aggregate cost of this railroad, including materials, on an average was forty-four thousand dollars per mile. The time for letting contracts was at hand and the time for me to make another rush for fortune. Well knowing that I had but little capital to begin with I proposed, nevertheless, for a large quantity of work, believing that I had the confidence of the canal commissioners, and they proved their friendship by giving me nine miles of the above road to construct, and in addition to this upward of one million feet of white oak timber to deliver. Here was a golden chance for me. I could take my pencil and figure out a fortune. I had not at the time of beginning all this work a capital exceeding \$300, a work embracing the pulling down of mountains, the filling up of valleys, humbling the stately forests around me, building mills, storehouses, etc., necessary to commence so important a job. I was connected in business with no one; but in less than two months from the time I took the contract I had a deed for a farm costing \$3,000, built a saw mill on it, and had five new mills running day and night, had twelve yoke of oxen and several teams of horses of my own, all actively engaged in forwarding lumber to the mills and a large number of men at work. Very soon I had a large store erected and filled with dry goods and provisions and within three months from the date of my contract all the above was accomplished by a stranger in a strange country with a capital of \$300, and where but a few days before was a gloomy wilderness waste, all was now life and business. Having my "troops" thus orderly arranged and the whole in harmonious operation we moved steadily on without one jarring discord, receiving my estimate every month sufficient to pay all expenses until the whole job was about half finished. On that day all the contractors gathered together as usual to receive their money from the superintendent, but to their astonishment they were told by him there was no money in the locker. Here my old foe "bad luck," came having grown enormous in size and most formidable in appearance. Indeed it would seem that I was a legitimate heir to bad luck, and he was about to lavish all his inheritance on me. We returned home without an estimate, there to meet one hundred and fifty laborers and as many farmers, each presenting his bill and pressing his claim for payment. Many of them were in the hands of the sheriff and would be thrust into jail unless he could receive his due to meet their liabilities; and after the wife of an Irishman declaring she had not so much as a "pataty" in the house, and whose husband had got drunk over the disappointment and was cursing the employer for trying to cheat them out of their wages. A merchant or banker may fail for a million and have less trouble and less noise about it than a contractor who owes but five hundred dollars. The reason given for not getting our estimate was because there was no money in the state treasury, and Pennsylvania, with all its wealth and

internal resources, could not borrow a dollar on the state's credit. A war had been proclaimed by General Jackson, president of the United States, against the United States bank, and that moneyed monster had shut its huge jaws upon all money operations in the states. In a council of war held by the commander-in-chief of the bank party, "Nick" Biddle and his subordinate, it was resolved that coercive measures should be resorted to and its power to either rule or ruin be practically demonstrated. Therefore every county bank, as well as any iron or other manufacturing establishment indebted to the bank was called on to pay its dues. County banks suspended specie payment; ceased to discount and began to gather in their funds all trembling and in fear of the great angry monster. In regard to Pennsylvania it was resolved in the same council that as her citizens were nearly two to one in favor of Jackson, she was most especially to be "held in durance vile," and so it proved for she was not able to borrow a single dollar till after the election to pay off her thousands of suffering contractors and laborers. But like a teamster who gets stalled with his load, it was easier to pull through than back out. I forced my contract through on my own credit and the credit of my friends who nobly stood by me. When the work was finished the money came, but not quite enough to meet every demand. So after the money failed my business commanded me, and I was forced to do as I could, not as I would. My farm and houses were sold by the sheriff at a great sacrifice and were bought by a friend for less than \$9,000, about \$3,000 short of paying my debts, and I found myself again in my old position at the bottom of the hill, with a debt of three thousands dollars on my back. I spent the following winter in importuning the legislature for a claim of \$10,000. I succeeded in obtaining about \$3,700—the other and principal part of my bill was postponed to next season. Instead of squaring up all my debts and quitting the place, I undertook to redeem my property which had been sacrificed under a forced sale. This I did, hoping to receive the other portion of my claim. I got the place

back and built a large and splendid house and fitted it up with every needful accommodation. I arranged also a capacious and beautiful garden, with swings and various other things to amuse and attract company and was soon doing a smacking business. I daily breakfasted from fifty to one hundred passengers who were crossing the Allegheny mountain in the cars. I soon made a spirited and business-like village at the foot of the Allegheny mountain, four miles west of Hollidaysburg, Huntingdon county, Pa., on which was conferred my name and it was called Henrysburg, and of which I was the founder and first postmaster. The Whigs and anti-Masons united and elected Joseph Ritner on anti-Masonic principals. The board of canal commissioners, who were my friends and who would doubtless assist me in obtaining my claim, were turned out, to give place to another board of whom I could expect anything but

ors and the same was true of the legislature. So I lost my money and was obliged after all to assign everything I had for the use of my creditors. I was now once more freed from the encumbrance of money and business and casting one long, lingering look upon my favorite place, sought for a fortune elsewhere, not in the least discouraged. With one hundred and fifty dollars and a good suit of clothes on my back I started for pastures new and I will here say to my readers if good clothes are ever necessary to recommend a man it is when he is at the foot of the hill and out at the pocket. To be poor is bad enough, in all conscience, but to be poor and to look poor is still worse. If a man is only known to be rich any kind of rags will be regarded as ornaments, but clothes do much to give a stranger credit and position amongst men.

From, *Oribine*

Altoona Pa.

Date, *Dec. 12' 1894*

WILLIAMSBURG WAIFS.

An old landmark being removed.—During the fine weather of last week Mr. Levi Sparr was very busy with a half dozen of men and his four-horse team taking down and hauling home the old woolen factory. The best information obtainable at present shows that this building has stood the storm and flood for more than eighty years and most of its timbers are surprisingly solid. Its original owner was one Jacob Miller, after whom perhaps more than a score of men have called it theirs. From our older citizens come expressions of regret because of its removal and the recalling of many pleasant hours spent with associates who drove the spinning mule and worked the weaving loom. Others tell of its once proud owner, Fuller Smith, whose ambition to trade with patrons across Tussey mountain caused him to survey and clear a path (for then there were no roads across the mountain), and with his horse, packsaddle fashion, did English Fuller cross and recross for many years, and as he carried about his fine spun yarn and strong woven cloth which he exchanged for raw material, he sang his favorite little song, "Ta ta, ta ta, and Jamie has gone to the war." Yes it is now many years since Fuller finished his course and so has the old factory days of usefulness gone by. But Fuller's path still continues to be trodden; neither will the old factory site be forgotten, from the fact that the new railroad which is destined to carry the limestone from Mr. Sparr's nearby rocky bluffs, will cut right through the old factory's foundation. Ah, these are modern times, and while the wheels of progress turn out of sight an industry of the past it turns in a new one of greater proportions which will use up and fill its place.

THE DAYS OF LONG AGO

When the Sites of Altoona and Tyrone
Were Covered by Trees.

AND THE INDIAN WAS AT HOME

In These Parts—Recollections of a Resident
of this City Now Past 86 Years
of Age and Hale
and Hearty.

HE WAS BORN WHERE TYRONE NOW IS

The man who lived where Tyrone and Altoona now stand, and who had a part in the events which occurred in this section of the country when it was a howling wilderness, when savages were plentiful, and long before our great railroads were thought of, must be an interesting subject to Altoona and Tyrone people of to-day. But the reader will doubtless ask, where is there such a man? We answer, right here in Altoona.

On New Year's Day, 1809, William Gardner was born in an humble log cabin located within the present limits of Tyrone. From an interview had with him Monday of the present week the writer learned that Mr. Gardner's recollections of those early days were remarkably clear for one of his age, and at the same time of great interest. He said: "When I got to be a boy big enough to know anything there was no cleared land whatever where Tyrone now stands, nor indeed in all this section. The inhabitants then were the native savages, who were beginning to get peaceable, the wild beasts and a few hardy pioneers, mostly Irish and German, or the descendants of these two nationalities, as were my parents, my mother's side of the house being descended from German ancestors, while my father's side had the pure Irish blood coursing through their veins. It is a good mixture and we are a long-lived race. My great-grandfather lived to the age of 130, my grandfather was 119 when he died, my father lived to be 99 and I am in my 87th year. Our family are not in the habit of lying in bed and being sick, but when our time comes we just die and make an end of it. Before the death of my father I was living here in Altoona and he still had his home at Tyrone. One morning he went to the station to take the train and come up here to see me, but he was too late for the train and it came without him. He was not to be balked by a small thing

like that, however, and starting, he walked to my home on Sixth avenue near Twenty-third, street, arriving there in time to sit down with us to dinner, saying he was hungry and making a hearty meal. He went to bed that night in my house in his usual good health and in the morning he was dead. He was 99 years old; his time had come and so he died without having been sick. That is our way of doing it."

"As I was saying, when I got to be a boy big enough to know anything there was no cleared land, and to get our supply of corn we grubbed holes in the ground where trees had blown down in the woods and planted the corn in this way in spots through the forest surrounding our cabin. For a whole year at a time we would live on corn and never see a grain of wheat. We had two cows, and we would eat mush and milk, varying the bill of fare with corn pone and corn dodgers. We also tapped the sugar trees and made maple sugar. When the cows went dry and we did not have milk for our mush we would melt the sugar and use sugar water instead of milk with our mush. It was rather thin and not very strengthening, but we managed to live on it. Boiling the sugar was the only way we had to get any money at that time, and you may imagine we did not see or get hold of very many dollars. Game was very plentiful at that time, however, and it was no uncommon thing to go out and kill two deer before breakfast.

"In this way we managed to subsist. In due time some of the land was cleared and wheat was raised. But before this came to pass we had our mush and milk, corn pone, sugar water and Indians. Once I was out hunting the cows. I was in the neighborhood of where the paper mill now stands at Tyrone and two big, dirty Indians came along. They were not pretty and I never thought much of any of the tribe. One of them took me by the hand and stalked onward. Of course I went along, and no word was spoken. Was I scared? Of course I was, but that didn't count. They went on and I with them until a point was reached about where Juniata street now is and then my hand was released. Did I run? Well, I made a clean streak out of that you bet.

"The Indians were not very bad in my time, however, but they would steal. If you left your cabin with some corn meal and venison in it, when you would go back your provisions would be all gone, but they would leave the cabin. It is a wonder they would not burn the cabins, but they allowed these to stand so that they could go back again when the larder was replenished and repeat their programme of robbery. I never took any stock in the Indians; there was nothing noble about the dirty rascals.

"I helped to cut the wood off the land where Tyrone now stands and dug the

cellars for the first two houses in the town. These were for John D. Stewart and Thomas Crissman. The time I speak of was before there was any Tyrone and Tyrone Forges were not then built. I am an iron worker, having learned that business, and I have worked all my life and at all kinds of work—coaling, cutting wood, digging cellars and at the iron business.

"I first came to what is now Altoona forty-six years ago. There was not a house here then except the Robison farm house. I bought the second lot that was sold here. It was on what is now Eleventh avenue. I only remained here a short while at that time, however. I went west with my first wife and had a fine farm out there and was doing well, but on account of my wife's health I had to sell out and come back to Pennsylvania and to Altoona where twenty-eight years ago I started in business with the proceeds of the sale of my farm. I bought for cash and sold on credit with the usual result, and in due time various residents of Altoona had my farm in their stomachs and on their heads, feet and backs and I had to look for some other occupation.

"By this time the Pennsylvania railroad was in course of construction and operation and I helped to lay the rails through the city and also in the first round house that was built. When I came back to Altoona the second time it was perhaps half as big as it is now. I have been living at Tyrone for the past four years; I have no home of my own now, but still keep working as I have opportunity and get around some among my children; I would like to be at work now if I had something to suit me."

Mr. Gardner, it will be seen from his conversation, is a well preserved man and one with an interesting history. He is one of those old-time sort of men who seem to have been created for a pioneer life. Standing a trifle over six feet in height, he is, notwithstanding his 86 years, straight as an arrow and his well knit frame devoid of superfluous flesh, looks as strong almost yet as the sturdy oak. In speaking to the writer, just before leave was taken of him, he said again: "I was never sick in my life; never had an ache or a pain; never had the toothache and never lost a tooth; I can kick seven feet yet," and suiting the action to the word, he raised his right foot with apparent ease considerably above the writer's head, and we believed him.

He further said: "I hunted with my grandfather the day before he died—he was 109 years old—and I could scarcely keep up with him."

Mr. Gardner is certainly a remarkable man. He looks as though he might easily be good for a number of years more of life, and the majority of people would not think him to be over 60 years of age.

is well known to many people in Blair county and all who know him are his friends. Frank and cheery in his manner, it is a pleasure to talk to him of old times, and some of the loafers of younger years might gain a profitable lesson were they to contemplate his eagerness to be "doing something" at eighty-six.

At present he is with his daughter, Mrs. William Springer, of 2104 First avenue, and when we called upon him he was assisting that lady with her week's washing. He was twice married: There was no issue to his first union, but the second was blessed with eight children, some of whom, together with both wives, are awaiting him on the other side.

A GRAND REUNION

Of Company C, Fifty-Third Regiment
Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers,

AT WILLIAMSBURG YESTERDAY

COMPANY AND REGIMENTAL HISTORY

It Was Held in Neff's Orchard Where a
Large Crowd Was Gathered and
Speeches Were Made by
Several Persons.

Hardly had the people of Williamsburg settled down from Memorial Day memories until they were again pleasantly stimulated in a patriotic way by the reunion of company C, Fifty-third regiment, Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, which was held in Neff's orchard, just on the edge of the town yesterday. From early dawn there was a sound of animation in the usually quiet streets and the men who were interested in making the reunion a success were moving briskly about. Presently they were joined by the rest of the population and in due time the line of procession was formed at the station in readiness to receive visitors. Soon after the arrival of the train the line of march was taken up, with George Isett, of Marklesburg, as chief marshal, and Joseph Wagner and Robert Fay as aids. Then passed in view of the assembled spectators, a very considerable parade, led by the Williamsburg drum corps, consisting of surviving widows of soldiers of Company C; representatives of Company C, 19 in number; Adjutant R. M. Johnston post No. 474, and Army of the Republic, and old twenty-seven boys, representing

the various corps of the union army; Washington camp No. 31, Patriotic Order Sons of America; citizens; school children.

D. B. Rothrock, of Altoona, president of the association, called the meeting to order, when the Rev. B. R. M. Sheeder, pastor of the Lutheran church, delivered a very earnest and appropriate address of welcome, bidding the veterans make themselves at home. To this Captain Robert Johnson responded on behalf of the regiment in a very happy address. Secretary A. N. Campbell read the minutes of the last meeting of the association and called the roll of the company. Congressman J. D. Hicks made a brief speech, which his audience thought might have been longer, and sang "Marching Through Georgia." During these very interesting exercises a choir specially organized for the occasion sang delightfully, as did also a number of little people who had been specially trained for the occasion and whose musical voices hugely delighted the spectators. This concluded the morning's services. An adjournment was then had to 1.30 o'clock, some repairing to the town for their dinner, but many remaining in the grove, picnic fashion.

AFTERNOON MEETING.

At the appointed hour the choir sang an appropriate selection, after which the Rev. J. C. Kelly, pastor of the Presbyterian church, led in prayer. Then Mr. D. B. Rothrock, of Altoona, read the history of the regiment as follows:

HISTORY OF THE REGIMENT.

The Record Made by a Body of Gallant
Americans.

The company of which the survivors here present are but a remnant was recruited in the counties of Huntingdon and Blair in the early fall of 1861 by Captain J. H. Wintrobe, of Marklesburg, and was mustered into the service of the United States on the 5th day of October, of that year, as company C, Fifty-third regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers, for the period of three years, or during the war. The regiment was composed of ten companies and included representatives from forty-four different counties of the Keystone State, with John R. Brooke, of Montgomery county, as colonel, and was, emphatically, a Pennsylvania regiment, for its membership came from Philadelphia in the east to Allegheny in the west, from the northern tier to the southern border, and with few exceptions were native to the Pennsylvania manner born. As soon as organization and equipment were completed, the regiment went to the front at Washington and was merged in and became a part of that mighty host known to the world and to fame as the Army of the Potomac, that army that upheld the starry banner of the American union and waged an aggressive warfare for four years in ten campaigns and two score battlefields and drenched the soil of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania with human blood, and whose history is one of great misfortunes, great follies and great glories; but amid all the buffetings of fortune, through winter and rough weather the Army of the Potomac never gave up, never lost its individuality, made a good fight and finally reached the goal. This Fifty-third was not what in those days was termed a newspaper regiment, neither was it a fancy regiment, and it made no pretensions to being a crack regiment, but rather its members, from its young commander down to the humblest private,

were soldiers from the necessities of the country, rather than choice and were young men of good form, both from the physical and mental point of view. The position to which we were assigned was French's Brigade and Sumner's division and happening to be the first regiment that reported to General Sumner we became the nucleus or corner stone of the second army corps of whose history and career we became a part throughout the entire existence of that one of the five original corps that preserved its organization to the end of the war unbroken. After a severe and extended school of drill and discipline we eventually found ourselves in the position of the reserve at the siege of Yorktown but in course of time the enemy retreated up the peninsula and ours was one of the divisions that followed, and who of our old divisions can ever forget that night's march to Williamsburg, Va. The Fifty-third's first severe baptism of fire though was at Fair Oaks on the second day where we stood the enemy off for a time, repulsing the charges of Longstreet's and Huger's commands and finally charging their lines and driving them from the field in confusion. This action, though of no decisive result nor great importance in determining the ultimate results of the war, was of great importance to the troops of our division for it imbued them with confidence in themselves and nerved them for the trying seven days that were soon to follow. Moreover, it engendered a confidence between officers and men that stood them much for both in the future, as well as demonstrating that which was iron and which was clay. The month following we were almost constantly under fire and subjected to much discomfort from night alarms, the excessive heat of the sun and the use of stagnant water, but the siege of Richmond, like all other earthly things, at last had an ending. June 27, after lying all day under an artillery fire, we—that is French's brigade—accompanied by Meagher's Irish brigade, are started double quick through heat and dust five miles distant to Gaines's Hill, where fierce fighting has been going on for two days. I quote here from General Francis A. Walker's history of the Second corps. "And now an unaccustomed cheer rises along the slender union lines; it is the cheer of men overweighed and worn when they learn that help is at hand. Mingled with it is the cheer of brave men who know they are sorely wanted and have come in time. Two brigades of those which a month ago crossed the river in such haste to the relief of Keys, now hotly crowd the bridge for Porter's rescue. Good brigades, good men; there wave the green flags of the Irish regiments of the reckless, rollicking Meagher. Here comes the peerless brigade of French, the grim old artillery at its head. These brigades deploy and charge, the enemy give way, and night settles like a pall over the field." June 29 the retreat begins and the Fifty-third soon finds that to them has been entrusted a perilous duty, but one none the less honorable, that of the rear guard. Soon Allen's farm was reached, where the Fifty-third held the keypoint to the position. This was of limited extent, hence was soon over, the enemy being severely punished and losing General Griffiths killed. The retreat was resumed and in the afternoon we joined our corps, which, in conjunction with the Sixth, had taken post at Savage's station, and took post on the extreme right of the line, holding that flank against all comers. The battle of Savage Station was one of considerable severity and magnitude. However, night found the enemy repulsed all along the line and our column took up their weary, toilsome march toward the James. The Fifty-third, in connection with the balance of their brigade and a battery of artillery, however, were left behind, and solitary and alone the little command stood to arms on that hill until after midnight confronted by the divisions of Magruder and Huger. What might have been the result had the impetuous Magruder been aware of our situation is sickening to contemplate. Daylight, however, found us across White Oak creek, where we tore up the bridge and again went into position on the right of the line on the summit of a high hill. This was ground Stonewall Jackson was expected to pass over with 30,000 men to connect his lines with Longstreet and Hill. Along about 11 o'clock a. m. Jackson put in an appearance and proceeded to see what he could find out by opening thirty-six pieces of artillery on our hill. I venture the assertion that many a soldier that was on that hill

remembers that shelling as one of his most memorable experiences. Jackson made several attempts to take that hill, but each time was stopped, and whilst he could hear the tell tale guns up at Glendale he was powerless to get there. It not being in accord with the order of procedure for us to remain there in that position any longer than night, we again took up our line of march, and who amongst us can ever forget that night's march through dust and heat, part of the way at double quick, two miles of the way square across the enemy's front and in speaking distance of their lines. At last the light of another day appears; so do the waters of the James river. We get an hour's rest, then march four miles to Malvern Hill and take up our position in the battle line, this time in reserve supporting batteries. In the waning afternoon the fighting is resumed; the enemy assault, making charge after charge, but the Potomac army stand firm as the hill on which they are posted and the enemy's charges prove all in vain. The ground is soon strewn with dead and wounded, but not one inch of space for one moment is yielded up.

Our next experiences with southern chivalry was during the disgraceful and disastrous campaign of Pope which culminated in the defeat at second Bull Run. The part assigned to the Fifty-third was as usual—rear guard in the retreat of the column from Fairfax to Chain Bridge. At Ball's Cross roads we found ourselves cut off from the column and our situation was truly one of great peril, but patience and perseverance which so often overcome difficulties, came to our aid that night and stood us in good stead when after a rapid march of five miles we found protection in the fortifications of Washington. Three times during that night's march we stopped to fight but the enemy not knowing our numbers seemed about as much afraid of us as we were of them; at least they made their discretion the major part of their valor, for which we were devoutly thankful.

South Mountain and Antietam next claimed our attention. The Second corps was not actually engaged at South Mountain, but relieved the Pennsylvania reserves during the early morning following the action, when it became evident the enemy had retreated, and our division, taking the advance, pushed rapidly forward. During the afternoon we struck Lee standing at bay on the banks of the Antietam. In the earliest hours of our engagement we were posted on the extreme left of the Second corps line, when it fell to our lot to turn the enemy's right and, in conjunction with some other troops, drive them from their strong position in the sunken road that is so much spoken of in connection with that battle. We were later transferred to the right of our division, where we effectually stopped one of their flanking movements. While getting in position to support a battery a shell killed Major General Richardson, our division commander; also a lieutenant of the Fifty-third, and wounded another. Thus fell that lion-hearted, noble and generous commander that the boys had learned to love so well, and who had infused in his command so much of the spirit of soldierly duty. And now there came to us another who has left his brigade in the Sixth corps to add new laurels to his growing fame as the leader of our old First division, and later on as the commander of our corps and stamp the impress of his genius throughout its rank and file. It is the peerless and intrepid Hancock, well named the superb. History records his transcendent virtues and brilliant achievements. December 13, 1862, was fought the battle of Fredericksburg. The Fifty-third was given on that day the post of honor, the extreme right of the line, and led the charge of Hancock's division on Maryes Heights. That short December day was, alas, a fateful one to the Fifty-third, as well as to the entire division which Hancock led through such a fire as is rarely encountered in warfare. The men forced their way, with fearful loss, to within twenty paces of the fatal stone wall, and held their position under a murderous fire of both musketry and artillery. Of this assault an historian writes: "Braver men never smiled at death than those who climbed Maryes hill that day. Their ranks, even in process of formation, were plowed through and torn to pieces by rebel batteries, and after, at heavy cost, they had reached the foot of the hill, they were confronted with a stone wall from behind which their infantry move

down like grass. Never, alas, did men fight better, or died more fruitlessly, than did those of Hancock's division. Of the 314 men the Fifty-third carried into action 155 were killed and wounded; sad ending of bright, noble young lives.

Chancellorsville next claims our attention, and like Fredericksburg it, too, was disastrous to the union cause. The Fifty-third, in common with the division, held post well toward the left of the line and was kept busy holding off the attempts and demonstrations of Hood and McLaws' commands of the enemy, while Jackson was making his flanking movements which resulted so disastrously and caused the rout of the Eleventh corps and the turning of right of Hooker's position. After all the troops had been withdrawn to a new line, Hancock is required to hold the lines around the Chancellor house until the new position is secured. Our position was not tenable, but it was necessary that it be held, and hold it we did for three-quarters of an hour. The Chancellorsville plateau was a hill of fire shot and shell screaming over it from every direction but the northeast, yet Hancock's division alone, where seven divisions had been stood in two lines of battle, back to back, east and west, while the fourteen guns held the enemy at bay on the south. At last we are ordered to withdraw. The guns of Lepine's battery, which had lost all its officers, all its cannoners, all its horses, are drawn off by the men of the Fifty-third, One Hundred and Sixteenth and One Hundred and Fortieth Pennsylvania. Time and space forbid our dwelling longer on the wreck and ruin that befell us in darkling woods at Chancellorsville.

Another and more glorious action claims our attention. Gettysburg, the one great and decisive action on the soil of our own state, where the fabric of the Southern Confederacy received its death wound, only to linger on until it found its grave at Appomattox. On the morning of July 2 the Fifty-third, in conjunction with the companion commands of the brigade, division and corps to which we belonged, took post well toward the left on the west slope of Cemetery Ridge; nothing important other than the desultory firing of skirmishers and occasional artillery shots, incident to two great armies getting into position, occurring until the middle of the afternoon, when a furious attack was made by Longstreet's corps on the position of the gallant troops of our Third corps, then led by brave Dan Sickles. Soon the Fifth corps also became involved; later our own division went to the rescue. The scene of our contest is the wheat field, so famous in the story of Gettysburg. The woods to the south were full of the enemy; seven brigades had been engaged on our side. When we arrive, we deploy into line; the notes of the charge float out above the rattle of musketry and the bugler falls dead, shot through the brain. Poor fellow! he has sounded his last charge. The commanding voice of Brooke rings out above the din and those five oft decimated regiments, with a mighty yell, spring forward on through the wheat field in spite of all, across the rivulet choked with the dead, into the woods beyond, up the rocky slope to the open space in sight of the Emmitsburg road. Brooke pushes his charge until he penetrates the enemy's lines and reaches a position far in advance of any reached by our troops on that field. It was during that afternoon that the real battle of Gettysburg was fought, there along the left of the union lines where for three and one-half hours the lines of the opposing forces pressed each other back and forth. General Longstreet says that it was three and one-half hours of the best fighting ever done on the American continent. On the third day we held the extreme left of Hancock's line, our skirmishers being heavily engaged and making large captures of prisoners. About 1.30 p. m. a signal gun is fired opposite our front. In a few minutes Lee was pounding our lines with one hundred and forty guns. The air was filled with shot and shell with their abominable shrieks and sent their deadly fragments down in showers upon the rocky ridge. All that is hideous in war seemed to have gathered itself together to burst in one fell tornado upon Cemetery Ridge. Later came the charge of the divisions of Pickett, Pettigrew and Pender, 18,000 strong, only to be hurled back broken, defeated, and almost annihilated. Their valor was beyond praise; it was sublime; it was worthy of a better

cause; and what a spectacle was visible after their defeat—a field strewn with the wreck and ruin of all this horrible in warfare. Then there arose a tremendous shout all along the union lines—a shout that rolled along that ridge from Culp's hill to the Round Tops and echoed back again. Gettysburg was won; the unity of the states

assured; slavery was doomed and the valor of the American volunteer soldiery established beyond any doubt. After our return to Virginia we had a much needed period of rest, after which came a campaign of manoeuvres, the culmination in a race between the two armies for the possession of Centreville Heights, with the Fifty-third again the rear guard. In the gray of an early morning we were attacked at Auburn while in the act of preparing breakfast and lost our coffee. For a while things looked very dusty; in fact the enemy, consisting of Ewell's corps, 30,000 strong, had us apparently cut off. Time was essential to get our trains out of the way. So that when at last the time came for our withdrawal it was a matter of no small difficulty. We were not much more than out of this scrape than we heard the guns of Hill's corps thundering against the head of the column of the corps at Bristol, where we arrived about 4 p. m., in ample time to participate in the stirring events of that lively fracas. I cannot conceive or recall any time or occasion in which we were more critically beset during our entire period of service than were that day at Coffee Hill and Bristol. Time and space forbid more than mere mention of Mine Run, our re-enlistment and furlough home. In the Wilderness proper we were in reserve. At Poe River I merely quote General Walker who says: "I cannot speak too highly of the bravery, soldierly conduct and discipline displayed by Brooke's and Brown's brigades on this occasion. Attacked by Heth's entire division of the enemy, they repeatedly beat him back, holding their ground until ordered to withdraw, when they retired with such order and steadiness as to merit the highest praise." We now come to one of the most brilliant achievements in our history—the famous charge of Hancock's Second corps on the bloody angle at Spottsylvania. The Fifty-third had the honor to be battalion of direction that morning, when in the very early dawn the command "forward" was given, and as soon as the red earth of the salient was seen the troops broke into a wild cheer, and taking the double quick without orders, they rushed to the works, and, tearing away the abattis, go over the entrenchments and the salient was won. The fruits of our victory were 4,000 prisoners, thirty-three colors and twenty-four cannons. This Spottsylvania battle never has received the degree of recognition it is entitled to. For twenty hours the battle raged in the midst of a drenching rain and those that slept after it had but little more of life than the corpses that lay around them on every side and the chilly rain still fell on that ghastly field on the living and the dead, on friend and foe. Were we attempting to write a book North Anna and Potomac would next demand our attention, but Cold Harbor presents greater claims to our consideration, where, for ten days, death reaped a rich harvest. The assault proper, as is well known, was a failure, though the character of the fighting all along the lines very severe. Our position there was on the left of the front line. June 16 we arrived in front of Petersburg, where on that same day we made another charge, as usual on intrenched lines, where about 400 of our brigade had the misfortune to be captured by the enemy, and as the writer was one of the number, he has come to the end of the string so far as personal reminiscences are concerned. Nevertheless, the Fifty-third, through all the long and arduous operations in front of Petersburg, First and Second Deep Bottom, Ream's Station, Boydton road, Hatcher's run, White Oak road, Sailors' creek, upheld the credit of their cause, and at Farnville took active part in the last infantry battle in Virginia, and were in at the front when the Army of Northern Virginia ground arms in surrender at Appomattox.

If one were to attempt a detailed narrative of the regiment it would fill a good sized book. It went to the front with less than 1,000 men; it was filled up twice, and the total number of names borne on the rolls for longer and shorter terms was almost 2,200. Of the 600 men as-

signed to it in the closing days of the rebellion, we can take but small consideration, leaving the aggregate of the tried and true about 1,600. Its killed on the field, 205, and wounded, about 800, so that its roll of casualties exceeded its original number. As to C company I can say it never for one hour failed to perform its part in common with its comrade companies with fidelity to the cause and the gratification of the officers placed over it. A generation has come and a generation has gone since the survivors came home and resumed their places as citizens of the country they helped to save. And now after a lapse of thirty years, when we are passing to the sere and yellow leaf, it is our prayer that white-winged peace may continue to spread its refulgent smiles over all the world with happiness and good will to all mankind.

At the conclusion of the foregoing interesting summary of the history of one of the best regiments that ever entered the field, Mr. Percy Arnold was introduced and delivered a very suitable oration. His language was patriotic and fervid and his manner earnest and enthusiastic.

At this point a dispatch was read from Chaplain F. H. Weaver, formerly of Newry and a member of the regiment, now of the Tenth United States infantry, regretting that he would be a day too late for the reunion.

After another selection had been sung Secretary Campbell read a history of Company C. We make the following extracts:

Company C, was recruited in Huntingdon and Blair counties in September, 1861, by the following officers: Dr. J. H. Wintrobe, of Marklesburg, as captain; Robert McNamara, of Hollidaysburg, as first lieutenant; Samuel M. Royer, of Springfield Furnace, as second lieutenant. The company received orders to report to Harrisburg which it did on the 23d day of September, 1861, going into camp at Camp Curtin, where it was drilled in the routine of a soldier's duty until the 17th day of October, 1861, when it was assigned to the Fifty-third regiment Pennsylvania volunteers and with it mustered into the service of the United States as company C, the color company of the regiment. Company C, was a faithful member of the regiment from '61 to Lee's surrender at Appomattox April 9, 1865, a continuous service of forty-six months. The company with the regiment re-enlisted on the 22d day of December, 1863, near Stevensburg, Va., where it was lying in winter quarters. All those re-enlisting received a veteran furlough for thirty days, after the expiration of which the boys returned to their old camping ground. The company was recruited pretty nearly full for the memorable Grant campaigns of 1864 and '65. The company at its final muster out, June 30, 1865, carried on its roll in consecutive numbers 188 members. The original roll in 1861 numbered but ninety-four members, showing that ninety-four recruits had been added to the roll from time to time, exactly doubling the original number. Of the original number ninety-four, only thirty-eight are yet remaining, showing a loss of fifty-six members, or nearly 60 per cent. of the original company who have gone to their final rest.

After some other interesting proceedings including the reading of a letter written concerning the regiment during the war, and of an army song, Colonel James Tearney, late commanding the eighty-seventh regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers, gave a very creditable exhibition of the manual of arms. Then the choir and the audience sang "The Army Bean," after which Henry L. Bunker, esq., of Hollidaysburg, was introduced, and delivered the address of the day. This writer has been proud to own the friendship of Mr. Bunker

for a quarter of a century and I heard him make many speeches, but none to surpass in timeliness and interest, wit and humor, power and pathos the one to which more than a thousand people listened at Williamsburg yesterday. We regret that our notes must remain untranslated by reason of the limitation of space. For the same reason all reference to the campfire, conducted by Captain Johnson, and to other interesting events of the day, including the revival of many personal friendships, and other pleasant things must be deferred. The day was one of the largest in the town's history. The number of people on the ground exceeded 1,500.

The company's business meeting was held during the campfire and the following officers elected: President, D. B. Rothrock, Altoona; vice president, L. B. Norris, Huntingdon; secretary, A. N. Campbell, of Huntingdon. The next reunion will be held in Huntingdon, at a date to be fixed by the committee of arrangements, which will be appointed by the secretary in due time.

Everybody who visited Williamsburg yesterday had a good time. The old town did herself proud.

TALES OF WAYSIDE INNS.

More Reminiscences of Those Located
Along the Old Pike.

INCIDENTS WORTHY OF MEMORY

"Turkey Nest" and the "Ghost Pen"—A
Locality Where Highwaymen Held
Travelers Up for Their
Valuables.

ANCIENT VILLAGE OF MONROE

Addison Correspondence Somerset County Democrat.

Something over a mile from the big water trough mentioned in last week's paper, we come to what has always been known as the "Turkey's Nest," though why it was so designated is not definitely known. The popular belief is that while the workmen were working on the original construction of the pike, they found a wild turkey's nest, or scared up a flock of wild turkeys. The pike crosses a small stream here, and owing to the topography of the ground, a massive stone wall and bridge had to be erected, the wall being on the south side. This is perhaps the largest structure on

pike, at least the largest of the kind, is a fine specimen of engineering skill and a grand monument to the honesty of the old time masons. The wall and bridge are in a wonderful state of preservation, notwithstanding that nearly eighty years have passed since it was erected. This spot has always been one of great interest to tourists and travelers. The grandeur and picturesque beauty of the locality cannot be excelled anywhere and thousands of people have stopped at the curve of the road to admire the view, the beauties of nature as well as those of art. Great changes have taken place here as well as all along the pike, the trees have been cut down, a modern cottage with stable and outbuildings have been erected, and the primitive glory and beauty departed.

A little way east of the "Turkey's Nest" a big rock stands on the north side of the pike at the foot of a ravine running from the top of the mountain. At this rock, some twenty-five years ago, quite a number of persons were "held up" in true western style and robbed of whatever valuables they had about them. This continued for a good while and, so far as the writer knows, no one was ever caught or punished for the outlawry, nor was it definitely known whether the robbers were citizens of the surrounding country or whether they came from some place else. On one occasion after a "hold up" some parties tracked the robbers through a light snow-fall to a but on the mountain, but from there they had taken flight no one knew where.

Near the foot of Laurel Hill, in the early days, there stood a log house long and wide which after a fashion was used as a tavern, although the names of the proprietors, if there were more than one, are unknown to the writer and so far as he knows to everybody else. It was known far and wide as the "Goat Pen," probably because the occupants of the house kept a good many goats and they were more or less familiarly housed with the guests inside the enclosure. Nothing remains of it to-day, hardly a remembrance of its former existence.

The ancient village of Monroe lies at the foot of the mountain in a ravine that at one time must have been covered with water, for the soil, while productive, is sandy and a great many smooth "river stones" appear. The land here has appreciated in value of late since it is known to be underlaid with a thick vein of coal. The town was named after President Monroe, who passed over the pike soon after its completion, and whose celebrated "doctrine, with a "boost" from President Cleveland gave "John Bull," the New York World and the and the rest of the cranks and "gran-nies" such a scare recently. The town is locally more generally known by the name of Hopwood.

The first old tavern here coming from the east is called the Deford house, and

in olden times the General Wayne house after old "Mad Anthony," who had a habit of whipping British and Indians. General Wayne passed through here at an early day and stopped over night with John Deford, who kept tavern in a small log house not far from the present more pretentious building. Deford had been thinking of building a new house and he asked his distinguished guest to give him a plan for the erection of the house. The general, nothing loathe, furnished a plan and the present stone structure is the result. Colonel Searight says the erection of the tavern after the general's plan "shows that he was a much better soldier than architect." Deford kept the house a long time and was succeeded by Henry Fisher, and he by Mathias Fry, the old wagoner mentioned frequently before. The old tavern did a good business under the control of all its proprietors during the prosperous times on the pike, but now it has a forlorn and lonesome appearance that is melancholy to behold. Its present owner is Samuel Magie or he did own it a few years ago, and its career as a tavern ended years ago. Its stables have gone to decay, the fences to wreck, and even the old pump seems to stand in idleness.

In comparatively recent years a toll gate was established in this old town to catch the mountain teams on their way to Uniontown. Of course everybody knows the toll gates in Somerset county were vacated by the court some years ago, but in Fayette county tolls are still collected. A gate was erected in Jockey Hollow, also, a few years ago, and for a while there was one this side of Uniontown for the purpose of collecting toll from coal teams and no others.

A frame house a little further west from the Deford house and on the opposite side of the street was kept at one time by James Dennison, who had considerable trade. It was afterwards kept by Mathias Fry, but at his advent trade had very considerably decreased. Fry kept a good many different houses, first and last on the pike, and although his taverns were always well kept and his accommodations excellent, he never accumulated much property.

He was a scrupulously honest man, well liked by everybody, had been a wagoner many years, and at one time was general agent for a transportation line from Baltimore to Wheeling, which necessitated the disbursement of large sums of money frequently but he discharged the duties of his office with conspicuous honesty and fidelity. He was an extraordinarily fine looking man and possessed wonderful physical strength. In some of these papers mention has been made of his prowess. He died in this village, Monroe, and his widow lived there a few years ago and may be living still.

Andrew McMasters kept the next tavern, rather he built the house for the purpose, which was subsequently owned and kept by German D. Hair, who was

the only man who ever kept the house as a tavern and he died in it a few years ago at an advanced age. He came to Uniontown to live from the eastern part of Pennsylvania about the time the road was completed. He was a stone mason and had worked on many of the stone bridges along the pike, including those east and west of Uniontown. That he was a good workman goes without saying, as any and all bridges are lasting witnesses of the honesty of their construction, and doubtless Mr. Hair's work was as good as the best.

The Shipley house is the next one west, and like most of the old taverns in Monroe, and a good many private houses, it was built firmly and substantially of stone. The house was built by E. W. Clement, two stories high and the workmanship displayed on this old tavern was extraordinarily good. The stones out of which it was built were large and smoothly dressed, which gave the house a fine appearance. Clement kept the house awhile, and a number of others followed him as proprietors, among whom were John Wallace, Archibald Skiles, Samuel Shipley, Redding Buntind, Lindsey Messmore and others, all of whom succeeded more or less in a pecuniary sense.

The Monroe house is among the oldest in the place. It was also built by Andrew McMasters and later had for its keepers E. W. Clement, Thomas Asklin, James Shaffer, Archibald Skiles, John Worthington, Matthias Frye and Calvin Springer. This house was very popular during the rush of travel and traffic on the pike and did a rushing and remunerative business. A great many wagons stopped here, as well as droves of hogs, horses and mules.

This village was not benefited much by the stages as they had their relays in Uniontown. Monroe was a very thriving village, though, in the prosperous days of the pike. There were a great many stores, blacksmith and wagon shops, saddle and harness makers, and all kinds of business was brisk. It was the centre of fun and frolic, and "many a time and oft" have "the wee sma' hours anent the twa" found the merry dance and the hilarious music in full blast in the old taverns. It began to decline when the travel was taken off the pike, but it is now somewhat revived by reason of the coal and coke developments in the immediate vicinity.

On the hill westward from Monroe stood a large two-story brick tavern which was once a well known and popular tavern stand. While this house was an imposing one apparently, there must have been some deficiency in its construction, for it, unlike most of the brick and stone houses, has disappeared. It was owned and kept by William Morris. He had a Janus like sign, which read "Welcome from the East" on one side, and "Welcome from the West" on the

other. This was no "fake" sign, for travelers from east and west were royally entertained. Morris was among the best tavern keepers on the pike, and while he was proprietor here his business was always good.

A Historic Chest.

Rev. S. F. Myers of 431 Sixth avenue has in his possession a chest with a famous history. It was made in Germany and brought to America in 1785 by Katrienia Lancin, whose name and date it bears. A chest, just like this one, made at the same time and brought over by the same person, was the chest connected with the famous story of Geneva. Geneva was a betrothed girl of 18 summers. On the day of her wedding, she slipped up stairs, and, for a joke, hid herself in the box. A spring lock closed and she was shut in from the world. Search was continuously made, but without avail, until accidentally, about three years after, the box was broken open, and there lay the skeleton of Geneva. Anybody doubting this story can go to the home of Rev. Myers and have it verified.

From, *Gazette*
Attona P.
Date, *June 11 '96*

HALF CENTURY GROWTH

Law, Like Other Things, Has Taken
Some Notable Steps Forward.

THE ADDRESS OF HON. DANIEL J. NEFF,

Welcoming to the Celebration the Guests of
the Bar Association.

BRIGHT PAGES IN RECORD OF THE PAST.

Brief mention was made yesterday of the opening address of Hon. D. J. Neff at the fiftieth anniversary of the Blair County Bar Association. Following are his remarks in full:

The people of this county, and others from far and near, who were at one time residents thereof, or who are interested in its history, will, during this week, com-

memorate the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the county. They will review the progress that has been made in arts, sciences and invention, the improvements in machinery, in the modes of transportation and the growth and development of the county in population and wealth of the past 50 years. The occasion will be most interesting and instructive to all the participants. The judiciary and the bar of the county have deemed it advisable and opportune, that they also should observe the occasion and commemorate it in a suitable manner. The administration of the laws deeply concerns all the inhabitants of the county. In all enlightened commonwealths the due administration of justice has been esteemed as of great public interest, of supreme importance, and an upright and independent judiciary one of the safeguards of civil liberty. When we consider the character and attainments, learning and ability, of the judges, past and present, who have occupied the bench, we cannot doubt that this county has been fortunate in its judiciary. Judges have sat in our courts who have shed a luster upon the jurisprudence of the commonwealth, and who would compare not unfavorably with John Marshall, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; with Sir Matthew Hale, Chief Justice Mansfield, or with Sir Edward Coke, the greatest oracle of municipal jurisprudence in England.

Speaking of the amenities of the bench, I once heard Judge Taylor pay a high compliment to the Supreme Court. A gentleman of the Bar had been arguing a question before him at considerable length. The judge was against him, but he persisted in his argument. The judge finally told him it was useless to argue the question further; he had decided it. But he said, "you have your remedy; take an exception, and you can take the case up and have my decision reviewed by a court that cannot err." His honor specially emphasized the last two words.

We can look back over 50 years of eventful history and contemplate with interest the many important issues that have been tried, the important decisions of our courts that have been rendered, establishing the rights of person and property and defining the land marks of the law. There is, at times, much in the proceedings of courts to excite and attract popular interest. There are witnessed the tragic and the comic sides of human life, its ups and downs; life histories and life tragedies are rehearsed, with more of passion and pathos than upon the mimic stage, and the curtain falls upon many a scene of human misery and despair. The forensic displays of the Roman Forum in the palmy days of the republic and the empire, the great trials of thrilling and historic interest in Westminster hall, in its meridian glory, are remembered with an absorbing and never fading interest. There, within the old walls of Westminster hall, "has stood the Duke of Norfolk, to answer the charge of asserting the right of Mary Queen of Scots to the throne of England; and the Earl of Strafford, accused of high treason against the sovereign whom he served too faithfully, and Warren Hastings, around whose impeachment was thrown the gorgeous splendor of eastern imagery evoked by the spell of eloquence from the lips of Sheridan and Burke."

The gentlemen of the Bar who attended the first court held in this county in 1816, and were then admitted to practice in the several courts of this county, and who are yet living will, no doubt, reflect upon the many changes that have taken place in the intervening years. They probably journeyed to Hollidaysburg by canal boat, by stage coach, or perhaps partly by canal and partly over the inclined planes of the Portage Railroad. The Pennsylvania canal, in connection with the Portage Railroad, constituting a great public highway between the east and the west, was regarded at that time, and in fact was, a work of great magnitude, of supreme importance. Time had been when the mode of transportation, at least in Central Pennsylvania, was principally by broad wheeled Conestoga wagons lumbering slowly along the pike between Philadelphia and Pittsburg, or arks of rude and primitive design, floating down our rivers. The canal east and west of the mountains, traversing in many places dense forests, with the connecting links of the rail and inclined plane, across the Alleghenies, extending through a country abounding in mineral resources and undeveloped wealth, constructed with arduous labor and consummate engineering skill, was considered one of the greatest achievements of the age. The Allegheny Portage was pronounced by enlightened engineers in England and France as one of the then wonders of the world. The exalted purpose, the vast importance of these works, connecting as they did with the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers at Pittsburg, and with the Ohio and Mississippi establishing a great commercial waterway or highway to the Gulf of Mexico, extending in their beneficial effects to the utmost limits of the national domain, and in their prospective operation and effects into the far future, could not be overestimated. The engineers and scientists of that day were men of high intelligence and varied knowledge, who had studied carefully the most advanced systems of inland navigation and railway construction in Europe and applied the knowledge thus acquired to the advancement of great enterprises at home. Standing in the van of civilization and human progress, they helped to build up a great Commonwealth in enduring strength. The canal commissioner of that day was an important man, sometimes bigger than the Governor himself or the Legislature, the power behind the throne greater than the throne itself, making and unmaking the fortunes of men. The canal boat captain also was a big man. He walked the deck of his craft with as proud a step as the commander of a man-of-war walks his quarterdeck. These great public works, it was supposed, would be enduring, would last for ages, like the Roman aqueducts or the Appian, over which, for centuries, the legions of imperial Rome marched to their distant conquests. But the tireless energy and the inventive genius of man have achieved conquests over the forces of nature and the elements undreamed of in that earlier day. The continent is spanned by great railways, grappling the states together with hooks of steel and bands of iron. Queen Victoria can say "Good morning" to Grover Cleveland through the submarine cable. It is said that Chauncey M. Depew recently sent a message around the world—25,000 miles—in four minutes. We have the inestimable advantages and conveniences of the electric railway. The telephone is an ac-

accomplished fact and the Roentgen ray has been discovered. During the last 50 years dynasties have risen and fallen, there have been social and political upheavals in various parts of the world, and mighty blows have been struck for civil liberty, the rights of men and the emancipation of the oppressed.

The world moves, and the young man of this age who would keep up with the procession must step lively.

The changes in our laws have kept pace with the progress of the age in other respects. These changes and innovations upon the common law have been in the direction of reform and improvement tending to the elevation of man and the amelioration of the condition of woman.

The act of April 9, 1849, exempting property of a debtor to the value of \$300 from levy and sale on execution or by distress for rent is a humane and beneficent law, as are also all the various laws protecting and giving a preference to the wages of manual labor.

The legal status of married women has been entirely changed, and sweeping modifications have been made by the acts of 1848, 1887 and 1893. The act of April 11, 1848, was the first great departure. It provided that every species and description of property, whether real, personal or mixed, which may be owned by or belong to any single woman shall continue to be the property of such woman as fully after her marriage as before, and all such property, of whatever nature or kind, which shall accrue to any married woman during coverture, by will, descent, deed of conveyance or otherwise, shall be owned and enjoyed by such married woman as her own separate property, and such property shall not be subject to levy and execution for the debts or liabilities of her husband.

The acts of 1887 and 1893 were still greater departures in the same direction, tending to the protection of married women in their right of property.

In our grandmothers' days a married woman could hardly be said to own her spinning wheel in her own right. Now the dashing femme covert can spin along the public highway on her wheel and hold and own her spinning wheel in defiance of the world.

The Constitution of 1874 made great and radical changes in the fundamental law.

The act of May 25, 1887, known as the civil procedure act, abolishing the distinctions between actions ex contractu and actions ex delicto, and providing that the plaintiff's declaration shall consist of a concise statement of his demand, wrought a great and needed reform, and greatly simplified the pleadings and proceedings in the trial of causes. All these changes were made during the last 50 years. Much of the old and curious learning of a former age contained in old and musty tomes and Doomsday books has become obsolete. Much of what might be termed the rubbish of the law has been swept away.

At the time of the organization of the county and for many years afterwards, the judge and the lawyers usually wrote down all the testimony during the progress of the trial. We are relieved of that labor now, as the official reporter and stenographer does that work. The judge's charge and the testimony are all typewritten by the reporter, and the pleadings filed are

also usually typewritten.

In former times the Altoona lawyer would pack his grip on Monday morning and engage lodging at a hotel at the county seat for a week or during the sitting of the court. For many years during the terms of court I regularly occupied room 29, at the American House, then kept by that jolly landlord and genial host, Daniel K. Ramey. Now all that is changed by the electric cars, which run every 15 minutes and land the Altoona lawyers at the steps of the court house. The Altoona lawyer can stand at the telephone in his comfortable office and by issuing his oral mandate through the 'phone can put the whole clerical force of the prothonotary's office in motion, or he can be treated to a learned dissertation on practice by Judge Bowers at long range.

Judges and lawyers have, from time immemorial, been inclined to polite, social intercourse and rational enjoyment. They have been disposed to reasonable relaxation after the labors of the bench and the contests of the forum.

In England, in the olden time, the sergeants at law were inducted into their office with great state and ceremony. It was attended with feasting, which sometimes lasted for several days, and at these feasts the lord chancellor and some of the highest dignitaries of the realm, sometimes including the king himself, sat down. On these festive occasions the lord chancellor usually headed the procession to the banqueting hall, thereby giving the sanction of his official approval to this important function. The newly created sergeants at law were allowed the high privilege of paying the bills for these banquets. Rich and fragrant are the memories that cluster around the inns of court and chancery, which Ben Johnson characterizes as "the noblest nurseries of humanity and liberty in the kingdom." It is said that the inns of court and chancery were celebrated for the magnificence of their entertainments. True to those honored and immemorial traditions, and cherishing the past associations of the bench and bar of Blair county the Blair County Bar association have invited the judges of adjoining and adjacent counties, and all the lawyers now living who formerly were resident practitioners at our Bar, and the judge of the Supreme Court who sat for many years as president judge in this county, and the only three ex-associate judges of this county now living, to participate in this semi-centennial celebration.

It is gratifying to us to meet here so many worthy representatives of the judiciary and gentlemen of the bar from other localities.

Cambria county is here represented by its learned president judge. The rarified atmosphere of that elevated plateau upon which Ebensburg stands seems to have quickened and sharpened the wits of its judges and lawyers, for they have always been celebrated for their wit. Michael Daniel Magehan, Michael Hasson and Robert L. Johnson were all in their day, noted wits; Frank P. Tierney, who many years ago, removed from Ebensburg to Altoona and died some years ago, was a genuine wit, and as a mimic he had few equals. Although of Irish descent he could delineate the German or the Irish character with equal facility. His mantle has fallen upon a

gentleman who is now the acknowledged leader of our bar. I forbear to mention his name as he is present, and I know he is averse to public notoriety. It may not be said of him, perhaps, as was said of one of the characters in the "School for Scandal" that his wit costs him nothing, as it is always at the expense of a friend. It might be said, however, that it costs him nothing in this sense: It costs him no effort. It is spontaneous. It effervesces and bubbles like champagne. But I fear I trespass on Judge Landis' domain. He is expected to give us the history of the Blair County Bar. It is, I presume, a clear case of trespass quare clausum freight.

The Supreme Court of the State is represented here by one of its learned justices who, on this anniversary, can look back with satisfaction on the many years during which he occupied the bench in this county with credit and distinction.

There is a gentleman here who formerly practiced at this Bar, although a resident of Huntingdon, now residing in Philadelphia. He was admitted at the first court held in 1846. Those who heard him at the Bar in days gone by will esteem themselves fortunate in having the opportunity of seeing him and hearing him again.

There is a gentleman from Harrisburg present who years ago enjoyed unbounded popularity and was at power in law and politics in this county. His numerous friends will greet him with the cordiality of the days of yore. To the judges of neighboring counties, to the judges of the Supreme Court, to the old-time members of the Bar, to the ex-associate judges of the county, the only three now living, to all who have responded to our invitation and kindly favored us with their presence, the Blair County Bar association sends greeting and extends a cordial welcome to a participation in all there is of interest, of cherished memories, and of enjoyment in the celebration of our semi-centennial. Few, if any of us, will see Blair's centennial.

May we now hope that the centennial of 1946 will be the dawn for our county and for our country of the millennial morn of a yet grander, nobler destiny. But as we may not be there to see it let us thank God that we are living to see the semi-centennial, and make the best of this occasion, while the train stops at this half-way station.

From,

Lucius

Alton

Date,

June 11 "96

HISTORY OF THE BAR.

The Career of the Association Was Presented by the Hon. Augustus S. Landis.

At the meeting of the Blair County Bar association ~~on~~ day afternoon, Hon. A. S. Landis ~~gave~~ history of the associ-

ation from its inception in 1846 to the present time. He said:

It has been said that the history of a revolution is often out the history of one man. By proper antithesis, it is perhaps just as true that the history of a legal bar is the history of many men.

When it is remembered that the component parts are the judges, invested with the delegated powers of the law; the attorneys and barristers, who love the application of these powers to obtain for suitors a resultant product called justice; the officer who records and perpetuates the adjudications of the court, and that other executive department, which relentlessly enforces the law as crystalized into its peremptory mandate, many men with diversified minds give it body, efficacy and character. What they thus have done during fifty years constitute its history for that period.

The bar of this county came into existence in the year 1846. It had been a long struggle whether there should be a Blair county. The subject was first discussed about the year 1839. This town was then a prosperous, growing town. It was at the head of canal navigation. It was the point of transshipment from canal to railroad transportation. It was on the only traffic thoroughfare in the state. These conditions brought many people here. The state employed many men to operate the public improvements. Large forwarding houses were erected and the owners handled the ever-increasing freight tonnage passing east and west. Large capital was embarked in this business and in mercantile and manufacturing enterprises. Bituminous coal, found upon the land of Samuel Lemou, near the Summit, became a leading article of trade for domestic use and transportation. Whilst it was the only great distributing point for a neighborhood of large radius, it was also the entrepot for the products of a rapidly developing territory. Its promise of a future urban population and wealth invited many from other parts, who came to share its generous and flattering fortunes.

This increased population and business necessarily gave rise to litigation and applications for various purposes to the public officers and the courts. Huntingdon county, of which it was part, had its county seat at Huntingdon, which lay thirty miles away, to be reached by laborious and wearisome driving over two mountains. This inconvenience gave rise to the effort to have erected a new county, of which this busy and growing centre should be the county seat.

During the six or seven years when the subject was discussed, whilst all were favorable to the project, many were active in the work until it was finally accomplished. Among them should be named William Williams, afterwards president of the Exchange bank at this place; Peter Cassidy, a well known surveyor; Peter Hewit, Silas Moore, Ed McGraw, John Walker, Dr. Joseph A. Landis, Dr. James Coffey, Samuel Calvin, William McFarland, Joseph Dysart, George R. McFarlane, William C. McCormick, R. A. McMurtrie and James M. Bell.

The necessary legislation to erect the county having failed at the first session of the legislature in which a bill was presented, it was finally enacted at the session of 1846, and was approved by Governor Francis R. Shunk on the 26th of February, 1846. When the news came to the people of the new county there was great rejoicing, and it was a day in this county capital, in which the people were buoyant with an expectation they felt to be assured of great future development and prosperity. This only in a measure was realized, for in a few years the Colossus, which reared itself but a few miles away, cast its shadow upon the new plant and chilled and checked its young life. It can, however, assume to itself one comfort—that it lives to celebrate its survival of its disappointment and the possession of many advantages, conveniences and benefits which others do not have, and which kept it abreast with the day's civilization, socially, morally and intellectually.

The county under the act took from Huntingdon county the townships of Allegheny, Antis, Synder, Tyrone, Frankstown, Blair, Huston, Woodbury and part of Morris. Bedford was compelled to give up North Woodbury and Greenfield townships. Since then the townships of Juniata, Freedom, Logan and Taylor have been formed from other townships. The boroughs of the county are: Hollidaysburg, Gaysport, Martinsburg, Duncausville, Roaring Spring, Tyrone, East

Tyrone and Juniata. Altoona is the only incorporated city.

Thus, in 1846, a new county was added to the state's long list, with a population of some 17,000 and an area of 510 square miles. The population in 1890 was over 70,000.

It was by the same act made part of the Sixteenth judicial district. This district already comprised the counties of Franklin, Bedford, Somerset and Fulton. Judge Jeremiah S. Black was the president judge, and thus, by the enactment, he became the first judge of this county.

It is well also to remark that Huntingdon county formed part of one of the original districts of the commonwealth—the Fourth judicial district—which embraced many of the original counties, and which was justly noted for having furnished so many able and eminent judges and lawyers in both the supreme and common pleas courts.

Until the new court house should be completed court sat in the old Methodist church building, on Walnut street, west of Montgomery street. This was a one story brick building perched upon the brink of a hill thirty feet from the street. The approach to it was by a broad stairway, and for the temporary purpose was convenient and suitable. On the 27th of July, 1846, Judge Black, with his associates, George R. McFarlane and Daniel McConnell, at 10 a. m., ascended the platform, and the crier opened the court with the usual formality. Colonel John Cresswell was the district attorney, but there was little to demand his official attention.

The following persons were sworn to the bar:

J. P. Anderson, Thaddeus Banks, Samuel S. Blair, A. W. Beuedict, David Blair, Ephraim Banks, Samuel M. Barkley, John Brotherline, J. M. Bell, Moses Canan, Samuel Calvin, A. G. Curtin, John Cresswell, T. J. Coffey, Joshua E. Cox, A. J. Cline, Theodore H. Cremer, William Dorris, jr., David Huff, John Fenlon, James T. Hall, David M. Hoffus, Charles H. Heyer, Michael Hasson, Isaac Hughes, Robert L. Johnston, William J. Jacobs, Alexander King, F. M. Kimmell, Joseph Kemp, J. R. Lowrie, William Lyon, Job Maun, John G. Miles, M. D. Megehan, R. A. McMurtie, John Mower, H. N. McAllister, A. J. Ogle, William P. Orbison, James M. Russell, Samuel L. Russell, William M. Stewart, J. S. Stewart, John Scott, jr., Samuel H. Tate, John Williamson, A. P. Wilson, S. S. Wharton.

making forty-nine in all. On Tuesday, the 28th, three more were added—George Taylor, afterwards president judge; Alex. Gwin and John A. Blodget, making fifty-two of the original number of the membership.

No causes were tried, and the traverse jury was discharged and the court adjourned on the 28th of July.

Of the court and bar as thus constituted, except five, all are dead. The judges are all dead, and of the bar ex-Senator John Scott, Colonel William Dorris, Hon. Titian J. Coffey, ex-assistant attorney general of the United States; Hon John Fenlon, ex-member of the house of representatives, and William P. Orbison, esq., alone survive; but some of these survivors are here to-day, and, whilst I am silent as to them, they themselves will tell us of the past.

A glance at the personnel of this court and its bar in the light of their subsequent history will disclose a remarkable body of men. They were educated lawyers. They were nearly all proficient in their professional knowledge and experience. The same care, zeal, caution and research which the lawyer of to-day exerts was practiced then. He strove to attain to the same acumen and success then as now. The professional ambition and ethics of that day are indeed made more conspicuous by the lower grade of principle and tarnished acts, which too often offend the honorable lawyer of the present.

We can recall the appearance of the president judge. His massive head and intellectual face were impressive to both acquaintance and stranger. He was the man of whom, under Dr. Johnson's conditions, it would be asked, Who is he? He was learned, decided, courteous and dignified. He possessed the confidence of the bar, and during his remaining life he was the admiration of his many friends. He became a justice of the supreme court, attorney general of the United States and a delegate to the constitutional convention of 1873. He continued, after leaving office, to be one of the busiest and most eminent lawyers in the land. He was of counsel in the argument

before the presidential commission in 1877, and his effort before that tribunal exhibited many of his most conspicuous, as well as most valued, characteristics.

Among those who were sworn to the bar before him on that day was one who subsequently became as widely known as Judge Black. Andrew G. Curtin was then but a modest lawyer in Bellefonte. His career in state politics as the great War Governor of Pennsylvania, minister to Russia, delegate to the constitutional convention of the state and member of congress, with national fame, is now easily recalled.

These two men met during the year 1873 in Philadelphia, on the floor of the convention. With no partisanship they vied in the responsible task of perfecting the fundamental law of the state. Both had achieved fame, both had the respect and affection of their colleagues, and both left their impress upon the instrument which now constitutes our organic law. Both were often participants in many controversies on that floor. The writer recalls a scene of pleasurable excitement and surprise, when, in the discussion of the question of legislative apportionment, the judge learned from his adversary, that his vast learning was of no value, compared to the governor's practical knowledge of men and things.

A well known figure at the bar in those days, and many years thereafter, was Mr. Miles. He was very fair in complexion, large and handsome. His reticence gave him a dignity which he never lost. He was laborious and indefatigable. His arguments were long and exhaustive. He stood at the counsel table to talk to the court, and sometimes stood at the witness box, requiring the judge to turn in that direction to face him. His voice was high and sharp, and penetrated every part of the room. His manner was earnest and convincing and to the boyish mind the wonder was that anything more need be said. He continued in active practice for many years, and died in Peoria, Ill., in 1877, leaving an honored memory.

Mr. McAllister, of Bellefonte, was an able and industrious lawyer. In professional zeal, energy and prowess he was an Ajax Telamon. He was a member of the constitutional convention of 1873, and brought with him for the fulfillment of the duties of that important office, a deep sense of his own responsibility. Nothing seemed to escape his attention, and no one department of the fundamental law was less worthy of his scrutiny than another. He was often admonished by his brethren that his zeal and labors must sap even his rugged health. He succumbed before the close of the session, and was succeeded by Samuel Calvin, whose name is likewise in this list of original attorneys.

Mr. Calvin, when elected to fill Mr. McAllister's chair, had practically retired from professional duties, and the call to him was opportune and agreeable to his tastes. He had long been a successful and able lawyer, and was a lawyer in its highest professional sense. His integrity and honor were his most valued possessions. They were never cheapened by being bartered nor tarnished by his holding them. He tried his case in the old style. There were no stenographers then, and with scrupulous fulness he wrote down every word uttered by the witness. He had no patience with the stupid witness. His "Sir", "I don't hear you, sir," and "repeat it, sir," uttered in intimidating tones to the astonished witness, was the delight of the student and young lawyer looking on somewhere in the bar. Few of the present bar knew him and his peculiarities, but some of us here to-day remember him as the learned lawyer, a ripe scholar in literature and the classics, and the most warm-hearted and genial of gentlemen. It only remains to be said of him, that he was a member of the Thirty-first congress in 1851, and was a follower of Henry Carey in his theories of social science. He met Mr. Carey on the floor of the convention, and a friendship sprang up between them that lasted during his remaining life. His son, Matthew Calvin, succeeded him at the bar.

Colonel McMurtie was in this list. He was a close friend of Mr. Calvin. He was for many years the commander of the militia under the old state system, and he mustered his undisciplined forces in the month of May for many years. He was a member of the legislature in 1863. He was long an active practitioner, and stood in the bar and community as a man and lawyer of great probity and honor.

Robert J. Johnston, after many years of most

active practice, became the president judge of Cambria county. Alex. King became judge of the Bedford and Franklin district, as did also F. M. Kimmick. Job Mann was a member of the Twenty-fourth, Thirtieth and Thirty-first congresses and state treasurer. Samuel L. Russell was also in the Thirty-third congress and a member of the constitutional convention of 1873. A. W. Benedict, of Huntingdon, was a member of the legislature of 1863. John Cresswell was a member of the state senate in 1857, and Thaddeus Banks a member of the legislature with John Scott in 1862. Mr. Scott afterwards became a United States senator, and at the close of his term became the general solicitor of the Pennsylvania Railroad company.

Ephraim Banks was the auditor general of the state in 1851 and an associate judge of the court of common pleas of Millin county. He was a man of great decision of character and of great dignity and worth. On one occasion, on the bench in the trial of a case, he differed from the president judge in his views, and, carrying his associate with him, he charged a jury over the head of his chief.

Thaddeus Banks was long conspicuous at this bar, and during his very active career was prominent in the most noteworthy litigation. He was a man of fine social qualities and of warm and generous heart. He was the Democratic candidate for judge against Dean and Taylor in 1871, but was defeated.

Samuel S. Blair commenced a brilliant career a few years after his admission. His introduction to public notice in the celebrated case of Summerville vs. Jackson, continued him in the public eye and brought him to the front. He developed into a strong and learned lawyer, and in all this part of the state he was for many years as an industrious and able lawyer—facile princeps. He was elected to the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh congresses. He was succeeded in his office by his son, Mr. John D. Blair.

John Williamson lived to be an octogenarian. Though he lived in Huntingdon, it was his habit for many years to visit this court and participate in the trial cases, mostly in the quarter sessions. His arguments to the jury furnished the most delightful entertainment to his hearers. He was a nervous speaker, but as he progressed he was fluent and accurate. He abounded in both humor and pathos, and won for himself a popularity that long survived his retirement from our midst.

M. D. Mageehan, familiarly known as "Michael Dan," with his contemporary, Michael Hasson, came to us from the Cambria bar. The wit and fancy of those well known and excellent Irish gentlemen were the admiration of many indulgent friends in their day and form the effervescent sparkle of many a story which survives to this hour.

John A. Blodgett was a frequent visitor from Bedford, where he practiced until he retired. He generally walked from Bedford and was in his place when court was called. He was a tall gentleman, dignified, yet free and social in his intercourse. He was a man of fine literary taste and attainments. He could write a legal opinion or a poem with equal ease. The ludicrous incidents of the bar were often rendered by this versatile gentleman in verse and I know of no one in all this bar of fifty years of life, who was like him and could make himself so appreciable to his fellows.

Not many years after the organization of the county, came from Bedford, David H. Hofius. His father was a German physician and coming to this country as a young man, he married and David was born and educated here, graduating at Franklin and Marshall college. He was, during his short life, for he died in 1859, concerned in nearly all the important litigation of his time. His erect and well appraised form gave him an imposing appearance. He was a bachelor, but most loyally recognized the claims of society, which then was conspicuous for its refinement and amenities. He was the idol of the people and it was common to hear him extolled as the "model lawyer." The moment of his passing came early in his career and as blindness became from day to day more imminent upon the unhappy man, the writer willingly helped him in his last work, till the end came. It was my sad task to pen the sketch which told of his virtues and his frailties, to close his affairs and place the stone that now marks his resting place.

One more name of the fifty-two remains to be noted, George W. Taylor. He was then 31 years of age and resided at Huntingdon. He early gave promise of the future jurist. His prosecution of the case of the Commonwealth vs. McConaughy, in 1840 and the Flanigans in Cambria county in 1842, on indictments for murder, it was customarily said, drew him from obscurity and established him permanently in the public estimation as a great lawyer. He succeeded Judge Black as president judge, April 5, 1849, and remained on the bench till November, 1871. He tried many important cases and was widely known in the state and recognized by the supreme court as an able and learned judge. His later years to some extent were given to agricultural pursuits and though of great learning and judicial acumen he was a man of plain manners and practical sense and wisdom. His prepared opinions disclosed no attempt at useless embellishment, but were simple, plain and strong. They thus furnished no rhetorical entertainment, but they addressed the perception of the mind and left it overwhelmed with conviction. He was a man of very social habits. In the old court house, it was his daily custom to linger at the stove, or some other gathering place, with McMurtrie, Calvin, Scott, Deau, Hewitt and others of us around him, to listen to his many stories of people and things, till, in many instances, suitors, jurors and counsel had noted a lost half hour by the clock. But, when he ascended to the bench, the familiarity of the social intercourse just related was left behind, and, as his eye swept the bar, and the crowded spaces beyond, he was again the "judge," and the dignity and the power of the law seemed to cover him as with a garment.

In closing these reminiscences of the first lawyers, I cannot omit mention of George A. Coffey, though he was not one of the original members. He came from the ministry to the bar about 1850. He was then in the full possession of developed mental power and learning. He was gifted, unique and brilliant. He was a scholar, an orator, a lawyer, though he had not the time to become a great lawyer. He was cultured, social and admired. His conversational powers were a delight to all who knew him and won him a welcome everywhere. This faculty, and it was the chief of his gifts, never seemed to desert him. His cordial reception of the writer at his bedside, not many days before his death, and his pleasant, cheerful conversation, though under the sad circumstances of a fatal illness, seemed to show it would abide to the end. He died in Philadelphia, whither he went in 1861, to accept the appointment of United States district attorney from President Lincoln.

Under the constitution of that date, laymen were appointed, afterwards elected, associate judges. They sat with the president judge and formed an important adjunct of the court. The first of this class of judges were George R. McFarlane and Daniel McConuell. The latter was a man of strong mind and great practical intelligence, and enjoyed the confidence of all who knew him. Judge McFarlane was then, and had been for years, a well known man. He was the proprietor of a foundry and machine works in this town, and evinced great energy and uprightness in his business. He was engaged in many schemes of social reform, and enjoyed a notoriety through all the neighboring counties. He was greatly beloved by many and respected by all who knew him. His untimely death, the result of an accident in his foundry, in 1852, was deeply mourned by the entire community, and inflicted upon it a loss felt for many years.

In all, the county had nineteen associate judges. The constitution of 1873 dispensed with them by making this county a single judicial district. There are only three now living, Samuel Smith, Charles J. Mann and John Penn Jones.

Davis Brooke succeeded Judge McConnell in January, 1848. Judge Brooke was a man of fine personal appearance and great dignity. His snow white hair was in pleasing contrast with his florid complexion. The conventional black dress of that day, admirably supplemented those evidences of his advanced age, and harmoniously accompanied the striking appearance of his chief, Judge Black.

In the second year of Judge Brooke's term there occurred a most interesting judicial incident.

served to demonstrate the existence then of a cerebral or psychical influence as hypnotism is now.

There came to the county seat one day a man of the name of Henry Loomis, and his wife, Submit C. Loomis. They advertised to give lectures on mesmerism, to be illustrated and manifested by exhibitions of its influence upon a susceptible subject. This subject was their daughter, Martha. Whilst these exhibitions were being nightly given with great success one C. J. Sykes appeared upon the scene and employed Mr. Banks and Mr. Creswell to take out upon the allowance of Judge Brooke, a writ of habeas corpus to take and restore to him his wife, Martha, who was 21 years of age, and who, by her father and mother, was deprived of her liberty. He further alleged that she was, under the spell of their mesmeric influence, deprived of her free will, her affections diverted from the relator, her husband, her health, physically and mentally, being sapped, and she herself was being sacrificed to the greed of her parents, who could not entertain their audience without her.

To this the respondents replied that Martha was married to Sykes in New York, but immediately thereafter he began to abuse her, and treated her with great cruelty, so that she fled to her parents for protection, and desired to remain with them.

The relator denied the allegations, alleging mercenary motives on the part of the Loomises, and praying to be allowed the companionship of his wife. Mr. Calvin and Mr. Hofius represented the parents and during two or three days evidence was taken before Judge Brooke. Great interest was manifested by the public; not only whether there was such a thing as mesmerism, but as to what would be done with Martha. The court house was packed with people, and public opinion and sympathy were sharply divided. Nearly a day was consumed in the argument of counsel, and during the entire progress of the case not a word had been uttered by the judge, and speculation was rife as to when he would be prepared to decide the case. As soon as the last word was spoken by counsel the judge immediately rose to his feet, and, bowing with great dignity and with great brevity, said, "Let Martha be discharged." The house instantly rang with cheers, and, amid the wildest excitement, Martha and her parents were fairly carried from the court room, while the wifeless Sykes was left to pursue his solitary way. It is remarkable that the record shows no final disposition of this case, and the writer recalls it only from memory.

The business of the court grew slowly, though thirty-four suits were brought to the first term. The first suit brought was that of Joseph and Daniel Hollen vs. Thomas Crissman, "debt," No. 11, July term, 1846, but there is no record of any judgment.

The first record of a case tried was that of Matthew Miller vs. Henry Burt, assumpsit, with a verdict 20th October, 1846, for plaintiff of \$139.45. The first record of an action of ejectment was that of James Stevens vs. J. Helfmiller, in which there was on the 20th of October, 1846, a verdict for plaintiff.

During that same week five cases were tried and one non-suit entered after the jury was sworn. Names of counsels are not given.

The first divorce suit was brought by Mary Armstrong against her erring and delinquent husband, John. Mr. Coffey conducted the case and obtained for Mary the coveted decree.

The first execution was issued by James Murty vs. John Dougherty to obtain \$23.75 and costs. The sheriff does not seem to have ever returned his writ.

The first case in which was made a motion for a new trial was in *Bride & McKeehan vs. Zachariah G. Brown*. No. 23, August term, 1843, brought from Huntingdon county. The verdict was for plaintiff for \$663.53, and Mr. Brown's dissatisfaction is expressed by his motion for a new trial. Judge Black was possibly no more favorable to retrials than modern judges, and the motion was refused. Mr. Brown was in his day a well-known citizen and litigant.

The first auditor appointed was Titian J. Coffey, on the 2d day of January, 1847. This method of adjudicating many questions arising in the settlement of estates and distribution of moneys has grown in favor, and is employed with frequency and with convenience to the court and bar to this time.

In the criminal department of the court there have been interesting cases, which, at the time of their disposition, elicited great professional as well as public attention. I recall some of them.

In June, 1855, a negro slave ran away from his master in Virginia, Mr. James Parsons. He reached this town on his way to Canada, but was closely followed by Mr. Parsons. As the negro entered a car early one morning to cross the mountain on the Old Portage railroad he was discovered by Mr. Parsons, who entered the car at the other end at the same time. The negro instantly fled, pursued by Parsons, who caught him in Gaysport and brought him down to a point near the present Kellerman House. This occurrence produced great excitement. The entire colored population was aroused and those staunch Democrats, General George W. Potts, Major J. R. Crawford and Colonel John Piper, with other prominent white citizens, at once came to the aid of the slave and, under the guidance of Snyder Carr, colored barber, and others of his race, the fugitive was taken in charge and spirited away, so that he was seen no more. Parsons, however, was arrested upon the charge of kidnapping, assault and battery and breach of the peace and bound over to appear at the July sessions. Bills were found by the grand jury, but the trials were continued to the October sessions. At the appointed time Parsons appeared with his counsel, Charles J. Falkner and J. Randolph Tucker, appointed by the governor of Virginia. After the commonwealth had progressed in the trial Mr. Hammond, the district attorney, by leave of the courts, took non-suits and the prisoner was released.

At this time, in view of the fugitive slave law, public feeling ran very high and runaway slaves all over the north were aided by the whites in their attempted escapes. Besides, the appearance of such eminent counsel sent by the great commonwealth of Virginia, gave the occurrence a significance and an éclat entirely exceptional in the history of the bar.

Since the organization of this county there have been found by the grand jury forty-one indictments for murder. Of these four were found guilty of murder in the first degree. The others were either acquitted or convicted of manslaughter or murder in the second degree. The four who were convicted of murder in the first degree were Alexander Hutchinson, killing a negro; James Shirley, killing his wife; David S. McKim, killing his young traveling companion, George Norcross, and Dr. Lewis U. Beach, killing his wife.

Hutchinson's case had a most unusual conclusion. He was convicted at the December sessions, 1850, near the close of Governor W. F. Johnston's official term. For some reason not explained, the warrant for the prisoner's execution was not issued by the governor before his term expired. Governor William Bigler succeeded him, and when his attention was called to the case, either for supposed legal reasons or from scruples of conscience, he declined to issue his warrant of death. Hutchinson remained a long time about the prison, helping in the daily work and going freely about the town, refusing to leave. One day, however, he went quietly away, no man pursuing, and he died some years later in an eastern county.

Shirley was hanged in 1853, and his was the first capital execution. George A. Coffey was the prosecuting attorney, having been deputized by Joseph Kemp, who was the district attorney.

McKim's case attracted a great deal of attention. He had traveled to Altoona with young Norcross, a stranger here, won his confidence, beguiled him into leaving the train and going a short distance west of the town, where, to obtain the little money he learned from him he possessed, he cruelly murdered him. The prosecution was conducted by Mr. Hammond and William A. Stoke, then an eminent and able lawyer, employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad company. The defendant relied upon Mr. Hofius. McKim was a large, fine-looking man, and seemed incapable of committing such a crime. The jury on the 7th of May, 1857, convicted him, and he was executed on the 21st of August following.

The most celebrated, however, of the homicide cases of the county was the indictment and conviction of Dr. Beach. He was a practicing physician in Altoona, where he lived with his wife, but had no children. One morning, at an early

hour, in the winter of 1884, he called at the house of Levi Knott, the brother of his wife, and informed him that he had killed his wife but protested he had done the deed without present knowledge of the act. He was arrested and tried during that year and was convicted. Mr. Spang, Mr. Stevens and the writer defended him, the latter two by direction of the court.

The defense was insanity and the proof showed that twelve of his blood relatives were either idiotic or insane, furnishing the argument that there was a hereditary taint, or pre-disposition. Counsel for defense asked the court to rule that, if the jury had a doubt as to his sanity, it should operate to reduce the grade of the offence to murder in the second degree. Judge Dean refused the point. Counsel endeavored to have the case reviewed by the supreme court, but the preliminary requisites could not be complied with and the judgment of the court was carried into effect on the 12th of February, 1885.

We might add that there has been a fifth conviction of murder in the first degree, in the case of Commonwealth vs. Frank Wilson. As the case is still pending, we forbear to note it further.

Many other criminal prosecutions have been tried, which at the time engaged able counsel and elicited more than ordinary attention, but we do not find it necessary to particularize.

In 1874 we had the railroad riots at Altoona and along the line of the railroad to Pittsburgh. This gave rise to numerous prosecutions and the conviction of many persons engaged in those lawless and turbulent acts.

These prosecutions were tried at the first court held in the present court house, which had just been completed and dedicated with the formal ceremonies reported and filed among the records of the court.

It was on this occasion that Judge Dean delivered the address referred to in this history and Judge Black was present for the last time in the county seat.

A great many civil cases have been tried, and some of them conspicuously memorable. The case of Summerville vs. Jackson, tried in 1849, was perhaps the first of that class. It was an action of ejectment to recover the possession of about 160 acres of land near Gaysport. The case turned mainly upon the question of fraud in defendant's acquisition of his title, and the jury found with the plaintiff. The judgment was affirmed in the supreme court in 1850. Mr. Miles represented the defendant and Mr. Blair and Mr. Thaddeus Stevens the plaintiffs. It is said Mr. Blair's triumph in this case secured him his subsequent professional success and eminence as a lawyer. Though Mr. Stevens has acquired his greatest renown since that date, he was then distinguished for great professional ability. The writer, then a boy, remembers the peroration of his argument in this case. As he stood before the jury, he was tall and imposing in his appearance and his face, though white with impassioned feeling, impressed the possession of great intellect. He spoke in low and solemn tones, and he depicted so darkly what he denominated as the fraud in the case that he seemed to bring the jury under the spell of an unnatural power, and left them terrified and bound.

The case of Rauch vs. Lloyd & Hill was long a familiar case. Little Charley Rauch, a boy of five years of age, crawled under defendant's car at the crossing, going for shavings for his mother. Whilst just under the cars, defendant's servant moved the train and his legs were cut off. Mr. Blair and Mr. Banks were their respective counsel. There was long protracted litigation both in this and the supreme court, but the case was finally settled.

Farrell vs. Lloyd was also long a famous case. It arose upon the question whether there was a resulting trust in the purchase of land, and knowledge by the vendee. In the name of Farrell vs. Lloyd and Lloyd vs. Lynch it was tried several times in the court below, and was four times in the supreme court. Messrs. Hall and Neff appeared for Farrell and Lynch, and for Lloyd, Mr. Blair. With the latter gentleman, later, other counsel was associated.

Another case was Louden et al. vs. Blair Iron and Coal company. It was tried three times below, and argued twice in the supreme court—the judgment for plaintiff being there first reversed and finally affirmed. It was an action of trespass for removing ore from plaintiff's land. The ver-

dict was for about \$14,000.

The case involving the largest amount of money was the suit brought by James Gardner for use vs. John Lloyd. The defendant was one of a large number of persons, who had entered into a written guaranty that William M. Lloyd, a suspended banker, would comply with the terms of a settlement by extension of time, and pay the creditors certain sums periodically as therein stipulated. The aggregate of these guaranties was \$425,000, and the suit against Mr. Lloyd was a test suit. The defense was, that true it was, the signers of the paper had offered to guarantee the faithful performance of the terms of extension entered into by W. M. Lloyd, but there had been no formal acceptance of the offer by the creditors and, lacking that element of completeness to give it binding efficacy, there could be no recovery.

About two weeks were consumed in the trial. The preparation of the case was one of unparalleled extent. There were over twelve hundred creditors of Lloyd and the notices, exhibits and other papers in the case, many of which were printed, numbered over a thousand, and all this prodigious labor was performed mainly by the late George M. Reade, of Ebensburg. It seemed to suit his indefatigable nature. Mr. Blair, Mr. Neff and Mr. Baldrige represented the defendant, and with Mr. Reade for the plaintiff, were associated the late Mr. Speer, of Huntingdon, Judge Bell and myself. It only remains to be said Judge Dean affirmed the principle invoked by the defendant and so instructed the jury. We carried the case to the supreme court, but that tribunal affirmed the judgment.

There have been other very important suits, among which were actions affecting the interests of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, the Wapsonock Railroad company and the city of Altoona. Among the latter was the case of the City vs. Bowman, involving the legality of the passage of an ordinance. It was finally decided against the city, causing a municipal loss of over \$200,000. But we will not pursue this branch of our review further.

The legal business of the county has grown with the increase of population. Especially has this been the case during the period elapsing since Judge Dean's historical address in 1877. Beginning with January of that year and ending with the January term of the current year (1896) there have been entered suits and judgments, 48,514. Of these the largest number was in 1894—3,816. The present practice of monthly return days, with the requirements of the new procedure act, has greatly facilitated the dispatch of business.

There was no equity practice till 1865. Since that time there have been filed 256 bills, of which the greatest number, twenty-eight, were filed in 1893. The increased litigation has compelled longer sessions of court and, during the next two years, the court has sat about 140 days in each year.

There have been but five judges since the organization of the county. Judge J. S. Black was the first to occupy the bench. He was succeeded by George Taylor and he by John Dean for two consecutive terms. In March, 1892, he was elected a justice of the supreme court and was succeeded in this court by the writer, who served till the election of the present incumbent, Martin Bell. Mr. Bell was the district attorney from January, 1887, to January, 1890.

Since Judge Dean's review of the membership of the bar in 1837 there have been sixty-two admissions, of which thirty-four were resident in the county. Since 1877 eighteen members have died.

The question then with the judge was, who had the honor of being the father of the bar? It lay between Banks, Calvin and McMurtrie, but these three prominent names have since disappeared from the roll. It is proper now to determine who is the father of the bar, and, by virtue of my position as its latest historian, I may be allowed the right of decision, and henceforth my brethren are lawfully authorized to award that distinguished recognition to Brother Daniel J. Neff.

Of the original members of the bar in this county not one survives, unless I except Mr. Coffey, now resident in Washington, D. C. Of the subsequent additions many moved away, some never came into prominence, whilst others became conspicuous, either as practitioners or as incumbents of public office.

In March, 1890, Mr. Calvin died, and he was followed by Mr. S. M. Woodcock, in February;

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Mr. H. H. Herr, in October, and Mr. S. S. Blaf, in December of the same year. This was regarded as an unusual mortality. Mr. Banks and Mr. McMurtrie both died in 1880, whilst Mr. Cresswell, their contemporary, died in 1882, and Mr. Brothcrine in 1879.

Mr. Hewit died after a very short illness in March, 1894, and Mr. Baldrige died suddenly in March, 1895.

My predecessor has spoken of the older members who have departed, and we can only make reference to a few of those who have since appeared to take their places.

Both Mr. Hewit and Mr. Baldrige were prominent members of the bar, and enjoyed the public confidence to a large degree.

Mr. Hewit was a gentleman of great political ambition. He was district attorney for two terms and was a member of the legislature in 1871, 1879, 1881 and 1893, and speaker of the house in 1881. He was succeeded in his office by his son, Oliver H. Hewit.

L. W. Hall was for many years an active practitioner at this bar, and whilst here was elected to the senate, of which body he was speaker in 1867. He since removed to Harrisburg, where he now resides and practices. He is the resident attorney of the Pennsylvania Railroad company in Dauphin county.

J. F. Milliken was colonel of the Fifth regiment and district attorney from 1874 to 1877. It was during his term that the extraordinary large number of prosecutions was brought for violation of the liquor law. The railroad rioters were prosecuted during the last year of his term. He afterwards went to Egypt, but now resides in New York.

Mr. Alexander was the district attorney who preceded him. He was long known as the senior partner in the law firm of Alexander & Herr. Within the last year he removed to Lancaster.

Thomas McCamant became the auditor general of the state in 1888, and now resides in Harrisburg. Edmund Shaw, a prominent member of the bar, and a Union soldier in the late war, was a member of the legislature for the terms of 1885 and 1887.

Mr. G. H. Spang removed to this county from Bedford in 1883. He was elected to the legislature from that county in 1875 and 1877.

J. D. Hicks came to the bar in 1873, after the close of the war, in which he served as a Union soldier. He was district attorney from 1880 till 1886, prosecuting Beach. In the fall of 1892 and 1894 he was elected a member of congress from this congressional district.

J. K. Patterson was elected to the legislature in 1894.

W. S. Hammond is the present district attorney, having just entered upon his second term.

The other older and prominent members of the bar are: Andrew J. Riley, one of the solicitors of the Pennsylvania Railroad company; Thomas H. Greevy, N. P. Mervine, J. S. Leisenring, E. H. Flick, W. L. Woodcock, W. I. Woodcock, A. A. Stevens, A. V. Dively, W. L. Hicks and W. L. Pascoe.

I could with pleasure name other bright and rising members of the bar, but time will not permit, and besides I will be pardoned for grouping here a few only of those who are best known by their long and active professional services and residence in the county.

The present prothonotary is Jesse L. Hartman, an urbane and efficient officer. Two deputy prothonotaries are worthy of special notice.

Stephen Africa came here in 1850, and remained till about 1870. He was a most competent officer, understanding fully the intricate methods and details of the office. His preparation for the quarterly terms embraced, among other things, the making of a dozen or two quill pens, which his skill alone could accomplish. These were laid out for the judges, counsel and jurors. A steel pen was not yet in favor, though now extremes have met in the stylus of the ancient and the steel of the modern.

The other deputy referred to is Mr. Cornelius D. Bowers. He came here from Philadelphia, and is 58 years old. He has been a printer by profession, and was an honorably discharged and wounded soldier in the Eighty-fourth regiment of this state. He has spent twenty-eight years of his life in the recorder's and prothonotary's offices. He is familiar with the duties of his present position, and by his courtesy and faithfulness he has won the confidence of the court

and the bar, and the respect of the public.

Mr. Jones Rollins, now deceased, was for nineteen years clerk of the court and librarian. He was a most intelligent and obliging officer and gentleman. The present recorder and register of wills is Mr. William H. Irwin. The sheriff is G. T. Bell, with his deputies, I. N. Eby and W. A. Smith. The county commissioners are: James Funk, M. H. Fagley and John Hurd. The county treasurer is John T. Akers.

Thus I have endeavored to recall some of the persons and incidents of the past. The retrospect is a changeful one. The faces and voices which make up one period, gradually pass to give way to another; and those everchanging series, like a relentless fate, destroy the familiar past, and replace it with the new and strange present. But it must be so. This bar will grow with the county's growth. Increasing prosperity will be accompanied by increasing population, and the public business will be manifested in the courts.

The younger members of the bar to-day will impose upon themselves the industry and zeal of those who have preceded them. As there have been illustrious names in the past, there should be more in the future. If, to any extent, the bar of the past has sought to maintain the highest grade of learning and integrity, so the future bar should zealously refuse to lower that standard. The entrance way to its privileges and powers is controlled by the membership; and when the unworthy or ignorant seek to set their feet within those precincts—which are traditionally sacred to those only who have education, mind and learning, with high professional pride and honor—both court and bar will interpose their steadfast prohibition. The perpetuation of a bar which is measured by such a standard will not only add to its own high character and adornment, but will win the confidence of the great public, who entrust freely to honest and capable lawyers, that vast variety of intricate questions which constantly arise to affect their lives, their liberty and their property.

Gentlemen of the present bar, animated by such ennobling aims, what shall he said of us, and those who follow us, fifty years from to-day?

From,

Pres
Philad^a R

Date,

June 12/96

BLAIR COUNTY'S SEMI-CENTENNIAL.

A Magnificent Display of
Many Soldiers' Organi-
zations.

THE MONUMENT UNVEILED.

The Old Men of Fifty Years Ago Are
Represented by Some Vigorous

Survivors—Memorable Scenes and Incidents.

By Telegraph from a Staff Correspondent.

Holldaysburg, June 11.—There was a time when little Blair was almost as proud and when Blair County citizens were almost as jubilant as they are this week. That day was fifty years ago, when, after a long contest, the new county named in honor of John Blair, the famous Indian fighter, was erected into an independent shrievalty by the signing of an act of the Assembly of 1846 by Governor Shunk. Few remain of the men who took part in that memorable fight, but those few have been as much in evidence during the present celebration as the injunctions served upon them by Father Time will permit.

This gala occasion has been as signally favored by the weather as this picturesque unique borough has been lavishly favored by nature. The ordinary accommodations fell far short of meeting a tithe of the demands made upon them. Lunch booths lined many of the streets and in the interest of temperance as well as of humanity the women connected with every church in the town opened those edifices and served out hot coffee and rolls to all comers.

100,000 ATTENDED.

It is impossible to state with accuracy the attendance upon the exercises to-day, but it is variously estimated at from 100,000 to 150,000, and to-morrow's display will attract thousands more. To-day was Military Day. To-morrow will be devoted to the civic display. Invitations to participate have been accepted by 147 separate organizations. The features of to-day's ceremonies were a parade by the Fifth Infantry Regiment National Guard, Battery B, the Sheridan Troop, posts of the G. A. R., camps of the Union Veteran Legion, the Sons of Veterans, and regimental associations, and the unveiling of a monument dedicated to the memory of the sons of Blair who fell in the War of the Rebellion.

Among those in attendance upon the ceremonies probably the most conspicuous group of persons around whom assembled historical memories were those descendants of John Holliday, who founded the town and in whose honor it was given its name of Holldaysburg.

The descendants present were Alexander Lowry Holliday, the oldest living resident of the town born within its limits, and Colonel Fleming Holliday, of Dover, Del., sons of the founder; Robert Lowry Holliday, grandson, now superintendent of the Delaware division of the P. W. & B. Railroad. Alexander Holliday, it almost goes without saying, is one of the town's characters whose picturesqueness is not marred by eccentricity. Not only is his active mind stored with reminiscences of the old-time dead, but his library is locally a history treasure trove. One unique feature of the latter is a record of the name, hour and date of the death and age of every person who has died in Holldaysburg during the past twenty-five years. It is a manuscript, preserved in scroll form, each entry taking up one line, and now reaching the measure of almost forty feet when unrolled.

MANY PROMINENT PARTAKERS.

Among the other men of affairs of fifty



The Soldiers and Sailors Monument at Holldaysburg.

years ago who took part in the celebration were ex-Senator John Scott, of Philadelphia, solicitor of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; ex-Assistant United States Attorney General Titian J. Coffey, of Washington, D. C.; ex-Representative Fenlon, of Ebensburg, Cambria County, and Colonel William D. Dorris, of Huntingdon. Senator Scott has been especially entertaining with his reminiscences of the first journeying by horseback to the new county seat from Huntingdon. Mr. Fenlon, now somewhat feeble, and past the four score mile post of life, participated in the legislative proceedings which resulted in the partition of Huntingdon County to form the new one. Colonel Dorris has long since forgiven the success of his opponents in the formation of Blair County. In 1846 he was a leading citizen of Huntingdon, and it was largely through his efforts that the bill for the division of the county was twice beaten. Mr. Coffey has had quite a checkered career since he left the scene of his early triumphs in the legal arena, and is passing his last days in a life of dignified retirement.

Besides these distinguished old-timers there are hundreds of visitors who have at various times gone out from the confines of the county and acquired more or less prominence or gold in other sections of the county. Among the Philadelphians in attendance here are Captain W. W. Wallace, Thomas J. Maitland, John H.

Munier and Mrs. Blumer, Mrs. James B. Lane, Walter F. Warriner, ex-Congressman John Reilley, R. P. Chamberlin, John B. Stouffer, J. H. Baer and Mrs. Baer, Calvin Moore, David C. Landis and Mrs. Landis, and R. P. Chamberlin. Two old Blair County boys from the State capital are Mayor John D. Paterson and Thomas M. Jones, who paid visits to the houses in which they were born, the first in Roaring Springs, and the latter in Hollidaysburg.

SOLDIERS IN FORCE.

The town all day belonged to the soldiers, old and young. All told there were about two thousand men marching in line, while a score of carriages carried almost a hundred of the veterans whose wounds or other infirmities ruled them out of the ranks. The display was an imposing one. As expressed by ex-Judge Landis, the old borough had seen nothing like it since the days of the Harrison Presidential campaign of 1844, two years before the county's birth. Colonel Theodore Burchfield rests to-night proud in the consciousness that his indefatigable efforts as chief marshal have made this part of the celebration a decided success. The Fifth Regiment turned out in full and as seldom is seen on such occasions outside of Philadelphia, every branch of the service was represented. The second division consisted of the Grand Army posts and affiliated organizations, among which were representatives from Altoona, Tyrone, Gallitzin, Duncansville and Williamsport. Not only the line of march, but every street in the town was decorated more or less elaborately with every imaginable design which could be found from the national colors. Major William Williams, a veteran of the Mexican and the Civil Wars, made more elaborate preparations of this character than any other citizen of the town. In addition to the tri-color decorations he erected in front of his dwelling, which is opposite the monument, an auxiliary reviewing stand. He had hoped to have Governor Hastings for his guest, but the Governor disappointed him as well as many thousands of others by not appearing. These veterans of both wars occupied positions on Major Williams' stand: Colonel John W. Johnston, of Youngstown, Pa.; Isaac George, Latrobe; C. F. Sargeant, Bellwood; Major R. I. Crozier, Altoona, and Thomas Holland, Hollidaysburg. The parade was over a short route and was reviewed by the committee and the guests present.

THE MONUMENT UNVEILED.

In the afternoon the troops and the Grand Army posts reassembled and formed in front of the Blair County soldiers' monument, which was enveloped in a white covering. In the absence of Governor Hastings, Captain Francis Cassidy, of Logan Township, presided. After music by the band and a chorus of a 100 voices organized for the occasion, followed the invocation by Rev. Dr. D. S. Munroe, of Altoona. After this, with a few introductory remarks, Henry T. Bunker a veteran of the war, pulled the cord which held the covering in place and the handsome granite tribute was unveiled amid the booming of cannon, the blare of brass instruments and the hoarse shouts of thousands. The monument was then formally presented to the County Commissioners by Captain Robert Johnston, of Altoona, on behalf of the following committee of old Blair County soldiers, of which he was chairman: Major J. R. Crozier, Altoona; Captain C. S. W. Jones, Tyrone; Major William Williams, Hollidaysburg; Major Alexander Robb, Martinsburg; Colonel William McDermott, Bellwood; Sergeant M. V. Shollar, Williamsburg; Corporal George P. Kelly, Duncansville, and Captain Francis Cassidy, Logan Township. On behalf of the County Commissioners the monument was accepted by Congressman J. D. Hicks. Then followed the oration of the day by Adjutant General Thomas J. Stewart. The Colonel spoke without note. His effort was a happy one, and called out frequent plaudits. More music followed and the exercises were closed with a benediction by Rev. L. B. Plumer, of Altoona.

From, *Mirror*

Altoona B.

Date, *June 11 /96*

HISTORY OF BLAIR COUNTY.

JUDGE DEAN'S ADDRESS

Delivered at the Concluding Exercises on
Friday Afternoon.

My Friends:—Accepting the assignment of an address on the history of our county, I have endeavored to perform that duty to the best of my ability, in view of the circumstances. A history of the county would involve a narrative of the leading incidents of its growth from the period of its first settlement, or its first settlers, running back to about 1768. A chronological statement of important events during that period, important not only because of import to those who took part in them, but to us, because of their effect on our present condition, would take, even in its most concise form, five or six hours to deliver, instead of the less than one, which from the necessity of the case, the committee has allotted me. Therefore, I have eliminated from my subject all but one phase of it; in so doing, I have put aside much that is of historical interest, such as the source of our land titles in the different townships; how the Penns acquired them; to what restrictions and reservations some of them were subject.

This, is an especially interesting topic, not only to the lawyer, but to the intelligent layman. How Judge Wilson, one of the first judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, could take up and have patented to him more than one hundred thousand acres of land, a large part of it within the boundaries of our county, when the Act of Assembly forbade the issue of a warrant for more than 433 acres to one individual, and made void the title to all in excess of that. How the Hollidays, who settled upon and really obtained title to 2,000 acres of the land, upon part of which this court house stands, and afterwards lost that title; how the original owners, bringing with them the customs and legal notions of England, Scotland and Ireland, sought, in some instances, to impress upon their lands the laws of primogeniture and entail, and how their purpose was defeated by the legislature and the courts of the Commonwealth; how and why Tyrone township, that beautiful valley, known for a hundred years as Sinking Valley, is one of the Penn manors, how it came to be such, and the nature of the vexatious restrictions

on its titles came to exist, all this and much more would be the proper history of the county, and would be interesting to all, but they must be set aside.

I take up and speak of that part of the history of our county, which to me is always the most interesting. Whether the people about whom I speak or wish to learn be an ancient one, and centuries ago disappeared from the earth, or be a present dominant one, who have for hundreds of years been advancing in civilization, I want to know as much as possible of their daily lives, their customs, religion, manners; how they acted in their domestic relations, how they cooked, ate and drank, and protected themselves from the weather. So in the brief time before me I shall endeavor to present to you the daily lives of our predecessors on the territory which now forms our county.

The population in the first thirty years of its existence had reached about 3,000; this population consisted almost wholly of original settlers, their wives and children; that is, those who had purchased their lands from the Penns or the Commonwealth, settled upon and improved them, and still occupied them, or having died, they were occupied by their families. At the date Penn obtained his charter for his colony from Charles II, in England and on the continent, as the old hymn has it, "Religion was the chief concern of mortals here below," not exactly the mortal's own religion, but chiefly that of his neighbors; no one had any doubt as to his own; he only doubted as to whether his neighbor's religious belief was orthodox; if it differed from his, his neighbor, being wrong, must be brought to his way of thinking, or his neighbor's soul was in danger of everlasting perdition. Hence it was an age of religious persecution; of inimical laws against heretics by those in power. And it mattered very little, so far as the persecution was concerned, which party was in power. Catholics persecuted Protestants; Protestants persecuted Catholics, and each other; in England, all sects detested and persecuted the Quakers.

When this spirit of religious persecution was rife, in the year 1681, Penn, who had been persecuted and imprisoned for his religion, acquired the patent to Pennsylvania, and commenced to colonize it, by inviting immigrants, not only members of his own sect, but of all sects, promising to all freedom of conscience in religion, which promise he and his sons in the proprietorship faithfully kept. Penn, while in prison for refusing to take an oath, ten years before the date of his charter, had written a pamphlet advocating the largest liberty of conscience in religious belief; from this position he never swerved.

It is a remarkable fact, that the Quaker, whose religious belief excludes all dogma, resting wholly on the "inner light," and the Catholics under Lord Baltimore, who settled in Maryland, and whose religious belief rests almost wholly on the authoritatively defined doctrine and dogma, should have given the world within a few years of the first examples of complete toleration in the New England one of the colo-

nies did it. I use the word "complete" religious toleration, as applied to the facts of that age. The act of toleration in Maryland declared that:—"No person or persons, whatsoever, professing to believe in Jesus Christ, shall from henceforth be in any way troubled or molested or discountenanced for and in respect of his or her religion, nor in the free exercise thereof; nor in any way compelled to the belief or exercise of any other religion against his or her consent." This would not tolerate the Jew or the Deist. But the numbers of these were so insignificant at that day, that it is altogether probable there was no intention to exclude them; they were simply not thought of.

Under Penn's great principle of religious toleration, emigrants began to pour into Pennsylvania from almost all European races. Quakers, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Tunkers, Catholics and Moravians in religious creed; Dutch, English, Irish, Scotch, Scotch-Irish, Swedes, Welsh and Germans. Such a conglomeration of races and religions settled no other of the original colonies. Within the next hundred years, there reached the territory now composing our county, Presbyterians, Tunkers, Lutherans and Catholics in religion. And in race there were Scotch, Scotch-Irish, Irish and Germans. The Cove, from North Woodbury township to Williamsburg, was mainly originally settled by German Tunkers; what is now Catherine township, Tyrone township, Logan township, Allegheny township, the land around Hollidaysburg, and part of Frankstown township, by Scotch-Irish; that part of Frankstown township, known as Scoten Valley, by Scotch. In the territory now known as Greenfield and Juniata township, many Lutherans settled. Some of them also settled in Frankstown township and Sinking Valley. Blair township was principal-

ly settled by Irish Catholics in the latter part of the last century, and most of the descendants of the original settlers still reside there. Beside these, Irish Catholics appear early in this century, from the old assessment books scattered all over the county; especially at the early iron works, furnaces and forges.

As to the German element, most authorities estimate that at the commencement of the Revolutionary war, it constituted from a third to a half of the population of the state. I would judge, in looking over the assessment of 1847, the first after the organization of the county, it numbered fully one-third of our population. At an early day, the Germans sought exclusiveness, preserved their own language, and neither sought nor desired intercourse with others; especially was this the case with the Tunkers; their principles were in one respect not unlike those of the Quakers; they were opposed to war, but they went further; they were non-resistants; whole families of them were massacred and scalped by the Indians in the Cove, and they resisted not; a dozen savages would devastate and destroy a settlement containing thirty men, without a hand being raised on their part. To every appeal to their courage and manhood in the frontier days, the invariable answer was, "Gottes willa sei Gethan"—"God's will be done." While we cannot but

admire steadfast adherence to principle, we cannot fail to see they were utterly out of place as frontiersmen. These are not the people who conquer homes in a new territory with a savage foe facing them, and if they had not had for neighbors men of a different stamp, the settlement of this great commonwealth would have been delayed half a century.

They are, however, the very embodiment of thrift and industry, and as cultivators of the soil have had no equals in the United States. Travel through the Cove, where their descendants still live on the splendid limestone farms; notice the fences, straight, with no broken rails; the large bank barns, generally painted red, a touch of old country color; houses often of a size, that a half a dozen would go inside the big barn, but always neat and presenting an air of comfort; what sleek, contented cattle; heavy fat horses. And these honest, simple people are the soul of hospitality; enter their houses, whether for a meal or lodging, without many words you feel you are welcome; the food, though plain, always appetizing and well cooked; the liquid beverages, cider and milk; the meals were not French, principally napkins, cut-glass and flowers; it was beef or pork, potatoes, dried apples or "snits," the finest of bread in huge loaves, and large wheat flour-cakes. Nearly all their clothing was made on the farm, from the wool clipped from their own sheep; their shoes from hides taken from the cattle on the farm, and taken to the nearest tannery to be made into leather. Often, at least such was the case thirty-five years ago—the women of the house did not speak English, and but poorly understood it; Pennsylvania Dutch was the language of a century; it is probably much the same now, for these people loathe change. In many respects, they excel in good citizenship—they are never found in the courts, civil or criminal; their disputes among themselves are settled by the congregation; often outsiders impose on them, feeling sure they will not seek redress at law. They are benevolent; they would consider it disgraceful for any of their own poor to reach the almshouse; but towards those without the pale they are also kind and charitable. Their taxes are always paid promptly, notwithstanding some grumbling at times at the amount. They hate debt, and seldom buy what they cannot pay for. Many years ago they did not vote, but this rule of their church is fast becoming obsolete. They are still averse to serving on juries, and I know of no instance in this county where they have accepted public office, tho' in other portions of the state they have done so. They were from the beginning opposed to public schools. In 1857, when superintendent of schools, I often visited them in their homes and conversed with them on the subject. Always hospitable and kind, still I remember of no instance in which I succeeded in persuading the elder members of the faith to aid in promoting the cause of education. The fact is, their ancestors had been persecuted bitterly in Germany by both Catholics and Lutherans; in the hands of these religionists were the government and all institutions devoted to learning;

by tradition, they associated much learning with despotic power and cruel persecution, and they abhorred it. But in the last thirty-five years, this hostility has in great part disappeared; the younger generation, more acute in its perceptions, is more favorable to education; these citizens, before long, we may hope, will take their proper place in the government of a great commonwealth, to whose material wealth they have so largely contributed. I yet expect to see a Tunker sheriff, or at least a county commissioner; my children, I doubt not, will see Tunker governors, judges and congressmen.

The other branch of German religionists, the Lutherans, had no such notions as the Tunkers. From their first coming into the colony, they took an active fighting part in affairs. In fact, when Muhlenberg, their great preacher, arrived among them in 1742, he called them a "rough set." He was a learned, able and pious man; it was not long until his character was felt by his co-religionists; he organized them into congregations, and sought to impress upon them the wisdom as well as duty of becoming Americanized; he opposed, with all his great ability, that segregation so dear to the Tunker. He taught English himself, and had his children educated in it by an English governess. His son Peter was a prominent general in the Revolutionary war. Many of these Lancaster and Berks' German Lutherans found their way into our valleys soon after the Revolution, and their names can be traced on the assessments from these counties. They were a far better class of citizens in one particular than the Tunkers; they took part in government, local, county and state; always voted; were always ready to take up arms in defence of their homes and country.

Professor Wickersham, in his "History of Education in Pennsylvania," says, the "Germans when they first came to Pennsylvania, were no more opposed to education than other races. But wherever they refused to learn English, they deteriorated, and became obstructionists of progress." I think this is applicable to Germans other than Tunkers; but the opposition of the latter, I know personally, was often put upon the ground that education was hurtful. Confining themselves to German, certainly tended to isolation and narrowness; they had not the Englishman's or Irishman's instinct for politics and government, and by self-isolation, their children did not acquire it. Composing so large a part of the population of the Commonwealth almost from its foundation, they have never taken that part in its government their numbers and wealth warranted. Wherever they abandoned their exclusiveness, and by education, business associations, and inter-marriages mixed with other races and their descendants, their natural capacity for sciences and affairs becomes undeniable. Dr. Caspar Wistar, Dr. Gross and Dr. Leidy were of this German stock; Wolf, Ritner, Shunk and Hartranft, were also. But all these eschewed German exclusiveness and Tunker opposition to war and education; they were of the Muhlenberg party and

ideas. Of the two classes of Germans, the Tunkers and the Lutherans, with their allied sects, the Lutheran contributes most to the greatness of a state, and is therefore the better citizen. In so far as greatness consists in well tilled land, large and well filled barns, the Tunker is superior. But no free Commonwealth was ever built up, nor long continued free, whose citizens took no part in the government; who would vote for no candidate from the Governor to the township Supervisor. The very genius of our constitutions, state and national, demands that all citizens who value life, liberty and property, should take an active and intelligent part in politics.

We next have the Scotch and Scotch-Irish. They, as noticed, settled a large part of the most fertile part of the county. They were all Presbyterians. I never heard of a Scotch-Irishman in the first generation being other than Presbyterian, until I became acquainted with Mr. Thomas Rooney, late of this town, a most excellent man, now gone to his rest. He was a most exemplary Lutheran, and came this country from Ireland in his youth. The Scotch-Irish were not all Scotch, although all who came from the north of Ireland were so called. Many of them had emigrated to Ireland from England in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I, and were co-religionists with those who emigrated from Scotland. Many of these Scotch emigrants were Celts of the same race as the native Irish; the only difference was in religion. Large numbers of these Irish settlers, Scotch and English, left Ireland in the reign of James II, and came to Pennsylvania; this migration of the Scotch-Irish continued for years on down to the Revolutionary war. It is generally supposed they were all driven from Ireland by Catholic persecution, but this is not the truth in all cases; many of them had taken long leases from the English government of Irish lands in the reigns of Queen Elizabeth and James I, and these leases were expiring in those of Charles II and James II; the government would not renew them, or demanded such exorbitant rents for the future, that they preferred to emigrate. And this state of affairs continued long after Protestant ascendancy on the English throne under William and Anne. As I always understood, from the tradition in our family, my paternal great-grandfather Matthew Dean came to Pennsylvania about the year 1760, because he preferred to own land here rather than lease it in Ireland. And I have no doubt that this is the case with many of that stock.

The Scotch-Irish were intense Presbyterians. A copy of the Confession of Faith, with the larger and shorter catechism, was in every Presbyterian family in my boyhood. The copy in our family was quite old; it bore a London publisher's imprint, and was said to have been brought from Ireland by my mother's ancestors. I don't remember that the doctrine was expressly taught—rather think it was not—but I got the impression somehow, from my drilling before I was twelve years old, that while those outside of the Pres-

byterian church might be saved, their case was an exceedingly doubtful one. I pitied my Methodist, Lutheran and Catholic boy companions, because, not being Presbyterian boys, they were in peril of everlasting punishment. I can realize now, from my own teachings, which must have been greatly moderated in their tone by nearly a century of New World liberty, how intolerant, cruel and bigoted must have been the attitude of the religious sects of Europe in the previous century. No one who has read history, doubts, that in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, religious persecution was the rule, toleration a rare exception; Catholics killed Protestants, Protestants killed Catholics; the Church of England killed both, and all because of a difference of creed as to the authority of the Pope, the efficacy of the sacraments, or the interpretation of revelation.

And on their theory, logically, they were right. They assumed their particular creed was undoubtedly orthodox; every one that differed from it was rank heresy; whosoever believed in and practiced the heresy would incur eternal damnation; if no one but the then holder of the false religion should believe in it, the effect would be limited, but if the heretic should go on propagating the heresy, and those imbibing it should so continue, the result would be millions of souls would be destroyed. "It is my duty to God," they reasoned, "to exterminate this soul-destroying heresy, and thereby save millions of souls." And they at once proceeded to perform their duty by cutting off the heads of the heretics. And assuming their premises to be correct, they were right, whether Catholic or Protestant. It took a long time, almost a century and a half of religious civilization, before the large majority of Christians of all creeds fully comprehended, that there was no divine authority committed to any man or body of men, to determine that another man would certainly be damned because of his religious creed; that the great Judge had reserved that attribute of sovereignty to Himself, and that the individual conscience was answerable to him alone; for He alone can determine certainly, the wickedness of the offence, and, therefore, can alone justly fix the punishment.

But out of these religious wars, persecutions and cruelties, came the Scotch-Irishmen into the beautiful valleys of our county. They wanted a fertile soil and they got it: they wanted to own it; in that their desire was accomplished. The first settlers had to war with the Indians. There was no "Gottes wille sei Gethan" with them, as with their Tunker co-settlers. Their idea was, "The Lord has given to His saints the heathen for an inheritance." They had no doubt as to who were the saints, nor who were the heathen. Their only season of respite from war in the early years was in winter; the Indians seldom made a winter campaign; but in sowing and reaping, their fields were guarded by the boys as sentinels. Many of them were killed by the cruel and cunning foe. Not a half mile from where we are now assembled, part of the Holliday family were massacred; in Dell Delight, one of the Moores; in Catherine township,

half of my great-grandfather's family was killed and scalped, and his house burned. Permit me to show how closely tradition connects events: The massacre of the Dean family occurred in the autumn of 1780, almost 116 years ago; my great-grandmother and four of the children were in the house, her husband and three children in the corn field; while they were in the corn field, the Indians killed and scalped all in the house, and set it on fire, without discovering those in the cornfield. One of the girls in the corn field was Polly, who married Hugh Means, a farmer in the lower end of Sinking Valley. I visited her more than once from 1844 to 1848, about which time she died, I being then 10 to 12 years of age and she probably 80. More than once she narrated to me all the sickening details of the massacre, as far as she or any one knew them. So that tradition in this instance, through but two persons, runs back 116 years to a terrible event in a family. I now tell it to my children, and they pass it on, so that three or four lives will possibly reach 250 years. Some of the details of the story may be lost, some possibly added, but the substance will remain correct. I have frequently, of late years, thought of this, when I have heard scientists hoot at the value of tradition as testimony to historical facts, arguing that written evidence alone can be relied on. Tradition, in the larger number of instances, has the kernel of truth. But this is digression. To hear the orators of the Scotch-Irish at times, one would be led to think they were the embodiment of all the virtues; that but for them, there would have been no Pennsylvania, and possibly no nation. In these claims, there is much pardonable exaggeration.

In their domestic lives, the Scotch-Irish were probably more considerate of the comfort of the women of the household than the Tunkers; they were always more liberal in expenditure; they generally ate the best of the product of their farms, and sold the poorest; whiskey distilled on the farm, or very near it, was used without stint; they favored education. The school-master was installed as soon as possible after a settlement was made, and there but few of the second generation who could not read, write and cypher. They had one most erroneous idea brought with them from the old country; that is, that the girls could marry and needed no estate; so in their wills in the early part of the century, you will find they generally gave about nine-tenths of their estate to the sons, and divided the remaining tenth among the daughters. I can even show you two or three wills of this kind probated after Scotch-Irishmen's decease, subsequent to the organization of this county.

Sargent, in his "Introductory Memoir to the Journal of Braddock's Expedition," says: "They were a hardy, brave, hot-headed race, excitable in temper, unrestrainable in passion, invincible in prejudice. Their hand opened as impetuously to a friend as it clinched against an enemy. * * * If often rude and lawless, it was partly the fault of their position. They hated the Indian while they despised him, and it does not seem, in their dealings with this race, as though there were

any sentiments of honor or manly in their bosoms, that could hold way against their passionate, blind resentment. Impatient of restraint, rebellious against everything that in their eyes bore the semblance of injustice, we find these men readiest among the ready on the battlefields of the Revolution. If they had faults, a lack of patriotism or of courage was not among the number."

Scotch-Irishmen, as a rule, protest against this picture as one that does them gross injustice. It is, perhaps, overdrawn against them, but it comes nearer a presentation of their true character than the indiscriminate laudation of their own orators. I feel warranted in thus speaking, because of my own blood, being Scotch-Irish on both paternal and maternal sides of my ancestry. While all the first settlers had passed away before my years of recollection, I saw and knew some of their immediate children, and many of their grandchildren. My uncle, Samuel Dean, who lived to an advanced age, was born in the year 1800. James M. Bell, my preceptor in the law, in the year 1799. My father, 1808. Tobias Foreman, late of Huntingdon county, lived with and was reared by my grandfather; James Clark, grandfather of John Clark of Williamsburg, an old Revolutionary soldier, an uncle of my father, was often at our house; he was vivacious, and a great narrator of past events; these all knew and mingled with the original settlers of Sinking Valley, Canoc Valley and Frankstown township. I have heard them tell of their domestic life, of their political differences, local feuds and church disputes. Sargent's description, from my own opinion, of mature years, approaches accuracy.

Mr. Sidney Fisher, in his most valuable book, "The Making of Pennsylvania," says:—"There is no doubt the Scotch-Irish were rough, but roughness is not always a serious vice, and there are various degrees of it. They had the lands of the Irish rebels given to them; they had entered on them with a strong hand, and they had grown accustomed to maintaining themselves among a hostile population from whom they expected but little consideration. They were not much addicted to politeness or asking leave for what they took, and they entered Pennsylvania in a manner that was rather irritating to the proprietors. Large numbers of them marched to the York barrens, in what was then Lancaster county, near the Maryland boundary line, without first offering to buy the land from Penn. When spoken to on the subject, they replied, that Penn had solicited colonists and they had come accordingly. A more serious offense was their settling without purchase on the lands of the Indians, an intrusion which is generally believed to have caused several massacres."

In their merry-makings they were rude; a rough and tumble fight with fists was not unusual; whiskey was a beverage among them partaken of on all occasions, whether feast, wedding or funeral. When a boy, within a radius of two miles of where I went to school, there were five distilleries, owned by Scotch-Irish Presbyterians and Penn-

the Germans. The Washington-temperance reform in 1843 and 1844 closed all but one of these. But without this, it is probable they would have closed. New means of transportation enabled them to ship their rye to market in bulk, instead of concentrating it into a small package of whiskey.

As noticed, the Tunkers would not vote or hold office. No one ever said that of a Scotch-Irishman. I have known of his refusal to vote at least once, and he was willing to hold as many offices as he was eligible to. The records of this county since its organization will, I think, bear me out in this statement. Although many of them deny it, the Tunkers excelled them as farmers. As a rule, the Scotch-Irish farmers, after three generations, are giving way, and their places are being taken by others.

The Catholic Irish settled what is now Blair township about the close of the Revolutionary war. The Borough of Newry is, next to Frankstown, the oldest village in the county. I have heard the late James M. Hewitt say, that when a boy, he went to Newry to see a circus; Hollidaysburg was then too insignificant to warrant the showmen in stopping; Newry was the larger town. This Irish settlement for a time thrived and was prosperous, but the location of the canal and Portage road north of it, with their junction at Hollidaysburg, arrested its growth and the location of the main line of the Pennsylvania railroad, six miles north of Hollidaysburg, created Altoona, leaving Hollidaysburg standing still. But the Catholic settlement at Newry and Blair township, for many years was a very important part of Huntingdon county. The old settlers were progressive and exemplary citizens, none better: the Cassidays, McIntoshes, Conrads, McGraws, Malones, and others were all active in the formation of our new county. Besides these Catholics, as I have already said, there were others scattered all over the county, but for many years Newry had the only Catholic church. There was, when I was a boy, a small Catholic graveyard in Williamsburg, how old, I do not know, but here, every now and then, some devout member of the church was laid to rest in consecrated ground. A neat church has been erected there within thirty years.

It is but a century ago, that the two races, hostile in religion, and hating each other in Ireland, again met. In Ireland, they had been implacable foes, but when they reached this new world of religious liberty, where every one had a right to pursue his own happiness, their resentments seemed to have disappeared, and they labored together for the common good. Up until 1854, I never heard of religious proscription, or religious antagonism in politics. I know I have seen my father, at an early day, in consultation with the Catholic McKiernans and Harbasons relative to the promotion of education in the common schools, and other public measures affecting the township. But in 1854, a wave of intolerance, bigotry and proscription passed over the state. The Catholic was persecuted, not as far as our constitution permitted; he was not imprisoned, not on account of his religion, but

he was voted out of every office he could possibly aspire to from state to township. It was a shameful persecution, and lasted about three years; in less than five years thereafter, those most active in the movement were busy denying they had any connection with it. In less than ten years, came the war for the preservation of the Union. Our Catholic fellow citizens all around us then, by their patriotism at home in promoting enlistments, their courage on many a bloody battlefield, gave the lie to all accusations made against them in the Know Nothing crusade. Good citizenship is not determined by creed; conscience and capacity for public service are not measured by doctrine or dogma. All religious proscription is utterly at war with the fundamental principles of our constitution. And whether our remote ancestors cut each other's heads off in Ireland two hundred years ago, because one did not acknowledge the spiritual authority of the Pope, and the other refused to acknowledge the spiritual authority of a Presbytery, or their descendants figuratively at this day cut each other's political heads off at the polls, the principle is precisely the same, religious bigotry and proscription. I speak now as a citizen of this growing county and this grand old commonwealth in which I was born and bred. No one doubts my religious creed; of a Scotch-Irish Presbyterian ancestry, religious training and education, I could not be other and do not wish to be other than Presbyterian. At the same time, with all my years of study, experience and thought, I cannot but tremble when I see the least sign of a revival of that intolerant religious spirit which for centuries bathed Europe in blood. Lincoln said of slavery, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." I do not believe a house divided against itself on a religious question can stand. Once religious belief is made a political issue; once you determine a man's fitness for office by his opinion on the doctrine of the "real presence,"—intercession of the saints or of the Virgin Mary, the very foundation of our free institutions disappears. Take away that foundation stone, laid in all its breadth and beauty by Penn, and on which the great and glorious edifice of this free commonwealth has been builded, grand as is the superstructure, it may fall; if it do not fall, it will cease to grow; there will be no further additions, wherein may be sheltered and made happy the sons of men.

Our Bill of Rights declares:—"All men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences.

"No person who acknowledges the being of a God and a future state of rewards and punishments, shall on account of his religious sentiments, be disqualified for any office or place of trust or profit under this Commonwealth."

Under this beneficent declaration, or the substance of it, declared by the wise founder of our state, the whole Commonwealth has grown and prospered. Any departure from it, must be a step backward into a dark age of persecution and bloodshed, when ignorance undertook to fashion men's consciences by cruelty and barbarity.

"Lord," said the woman of Sichein. "Our fathers worshipped in this mountain, and ye say that Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus replied, "Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither worship in this mountain nor yet at Jerusalem, but when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth."

It is almost nineteen centuries since the great founder of Christianity proclaimed this sum of all religion at Jacob's well, yet, during all these centuries, it is only an occasional glimpse we get of it in practice. The Tunkers, Lutherans, Scotch-Irish and Catholic Irish lived up to it for almost seventy-five years, or until 1854. May we hope, that since the miserable failure then to adopt a religious test in politics, none other will ever be attempted.

Such were the men, such their religion, such the race of hardy people, who originally settled the territory which now forms our county. When the county was organized in 1846, many of the descendants of the original Germans and Scotch-Irish had become Methodists, and some of them Baptists. The Methodist was a missionary church; its circuit riders had penetrated into all corners of the county by that time; their congregations were organized in almost every school district; they were especially effective at the iron works; two large settled congregations with comfortable churches existed in Hollidaysburg and Williamsburg; but while strong in numbers, they were generally of limited means; their influence and wealth are mainly the growth of the last fifty years; and the same may be said of the Baptists. Many other religious sects have also in that period grown in numbers and importance. What I have sought specially to point out, is the kind and character of the people who, by more than seventy years of struggle, made our county what it was in 1846; brought it to a point where its people had a right to demand a separate county organization, and the legislature was warranted in creating it.

When the county was formed in 1846, in my judgment the population was about 11,000. I think fully four-fifths of this was made up of first settlers and their immediate descendants. The population rapidly increased; it certainly numbers now not far from 75,000. I doubt if more than one-third of these can trace descent to the Germans, Scotch-Irish and Irish of the first half of the century; take away the population of Altoona and its immediate surroundings in Logan township, Tyrone and Bellwood, and the last thirty years would show but little change. The greater Blair county is made up by these progressive railroad towns. True, many of their citizens are descendants of the original stock, but the larger proportion is from other counties and states, and many from beyond the seas. By their joining us, they have raised our noble old county from one of the smallest to one of the greater counties in wealth, population and enterprise. In the not distant future, we shall see it reach more than one hundred thousand in population. Its past rapid growth has been due, in great degree,

to the growth and liberal management of that great corporation, the Pennsylvania railroad. Our material prosperity and progress in the future must depend largely on the prosperity of that enterprise. As it grows our county will grow.

But I have already wearied you, in endeavoring to present, in as concise a narrative as possible, a glimpse of the physical, intellectual and religious growth of our beloved home. In it, I was born and reared; with it are associated all my fondest recollections; to its future cling all my most fervent hopes; if any want to point to some better, some golden age in some other county or some other years, I have no sympathy with them, for our county and our age, I feel sure, are the best attainable.

From, *Lucius*
Altoona Pa.
 Date, Oct 23, 1896

REUNION OF VETERANS.

Survivors of the Seventy-Sixth Regiment of
 Pennsylvania Volunteers Met in the
 City Yesterday.

For the fourteenth time since the close of the rebellion the Keystone Zouaves and survivors of the Seventy-sixth regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers met in annual session in this city yesterday morning in the Engle hotel. Reminiscences of contrabands, picket duty, long marches through Virginia's awful mud, nights of anguish passed in southern swamps, skirmishes with the alert Johnnies, a flirtation with a fair maiden of proud ancestry, conflicts wherein brave comrades fell by their sides, of the bloody deeds of daring and the final return to their northern homes, where anxious wives and mothers, sweethearts and sisters, impatiently awaited their coming, were recounted with proper embellishment for fully two hours, in the hotel office, when the gallant old infantrymen took possession of the hotel parlors and conducted a short business meeting. Comrade Joseph Brown, of Company F, presided until Captain John McNevin, of Company C, of this city, was re-elected president of the association, when the first named resigned in favor of his successor. In the absence of L. W. Johnston, of New Castle, Pa., secretary and treasurer, Comrade Harry A. Miller, Company F, of Hollidaysburg, was chosen

temporary secretary. The resignation of Comrade Johnston, who had been elected the treasurer and secretary of the association for life at a reunion of the regiment in Pittsburgh several years ago, was read by the secretary. The association refused to accept the resignation. He was re-elected with an assistant, in the person of Comrade Harry A. Miller. Mr. Miller declined to accept the position, but, when threatened with court martial by Comrade Harry Wayne, he accepted.

Letters of regret at their inability to attend were read from Joseph R. Findley, of St. Louis, captain of Company F, and Phil U. Hicks, of Glen Lock, Kan.

The treasurer's report, which was read, showed a balance in the treasury of \$19.07.

Dr. William M. Findley, of this city, brother of Captain Findley, of St. Louis, and Adie Hicks, of Duncansville, were elected honorary life members of the association.

It was decided to meet in Harrisburg next year, probably during the latter part of September or the first of October.

After dinner the time was spent in sight-seeing about the town.

At 7 o'clock last evening the gray haired veterans met at the Engle House, and, pursuant to a pressing invitation, marched to Dr. Findley's residence, at Eighth avenue and Twelfth street, where they were pleasantly entertained for an hour by Dr. and Mrs. Findley. There were thirty-one comrades present. Refreshments were served with pretty appointments. A vote of thanks was tendered the Findleys.

The association went from Dr. Findley's to Post 463's room, at Eighth avenue and Eighth street, where a camp fire was held. It was headed by the regiment's musicians, James Pross, Thomas Lloyd and L. Y. Wolf. Mr. Pross played the same old fife he played during the rebellion.

The post room was comfortably filled with old veterans and their wives and friends. Comrade Brown presided over the meeting. He made a reminiscent address, dwelling chiefly upon the history of the regiment. He was followed by Captain McNevin, Captain Alf Hicks, Harry Wayne, L. Y. Wolf, E. W. H. Kreider, William Few, James A. Gwin, Dr. Findley, ex-Mayor Breth and Robert Howe.

Comrades Wayne and Wolfe sang, with much enthusiasm, a duet familiarly and affectionately entitled "Beans, Beans," and the taps were sounded by Bugler J. D. Moore, who received a vote of thanks for the same. This brought the evening and the very pleasurable reunion to a close.

The following survivors were in attendance:

Captain William Bardollar, of Company E, Bedford; Captain Alfred Hicks, of Company C, Leech-

burg; Comrades J. S. Smith, Company E, Bedford; H. A. Miller, Company F, Thomas Tierney, Company F, Hollidaysburg; C. M. Gates, Company C, Albert Sanders, Company C, Duncansville; B. F. Beatty, Company G, Blairsville; S. Y. Wolf, Company H, Cumberland, Md.; James A. Gwin, Company F, J. W. Conan, Company F, W. S. Holtz, Company A, Graham Meadville, Company F, of Bellwood; James H. Null, Company F, D. O. Kiser, Company E, Pittsburgh; J. S. McCartney, Company C, Williamsburg; Harry Wayne, Company F; Michael Poet, Company C; Joseph Brown, Company F; George Lafferty, Company F; William Acken, Company F; B. F. White, Company C; George Cruse, Company C; Nathan Brown, Company F; Thomas Lloyd, Company C; John F. Hoover, Company C; Thomas Morgan, Company F; Fred and Casper Wicker, Company F; George Hall, Company C; Walter Bare, Company F, and Captain John McNevin, Company C, all of Altoona; Trevan Buck, Company F, Eldorado; John Hancock, Company F, Osceola.

From, *Mirror*

Altoona Pa

Date, *Nov. 29. 1897*

THE MORTARS AND SHELLS

Were Presented to the Commissioners on Saturday.

A Parade and Three Eloquent Addresses Made the Occasion Memorable—The Court House Was Crowded When the Speeches Were Made.

The heroic soldier boys of Blair county who fought in the civil war and many of whom rest in unmarked graves, were honored and remembered by their surviving comrades Saturday afternoon. The occasion was the presentation of the mortars that performed service during the recent strife, and the shells that now rest at the foot of the monument at the court house at Hollidaysburg, to the county commissioners, with appropriate military services.

The weather was far from being pleasant, but the populace of the county were largely represented at the exercises. At 2:30 o'clock a parade formed at the Gaysport station in the following order: Chief marshal, Theo. Burchfield, aides, mortar committee, Veteran legion, Sons of Veterans, Fifth regiment drum corps, company C, Grand Army Post 39, Hollidaysburg, Grand Army Post 62, of Altoona; old Veterans' and Boys' brigades. They marched to the court house. A squad of company C fired a salute of four

rounds, after which the large gathering filed into the court room, where the ceremonies were to be conducted. The room was soon crowded to its capacity and many were compelled to stand.

The exercises opened with martial music, "Marching Through Georgia," by the Fifth regiment drum corps.

Rev. W. W. Anstead, pastor of the Hollidaysburg Lutheran church, delivered the invocation, praying that the people keep in their hearts a due sense of gratitude for the defenders of our country. The Lone Star Glee club, colored, of Hollidaysburg, sang several war songs, after which Hon. J. D. Hicks was introduced. He spoke in part as follows

Mr. Chairman, Comrades of the Grand Army, Ladies and Gentlemen—Within the shadow of this beautiful temple of justice that bears daily testimony by its impressive grandeur that the arts of peace are more conducive to the public good than the weapons of war, verifying the old adage "that the pen is mightier than the sword," we are met today for the purpose of again fixing more permanently in our minds and hearts the devotion due to valor and a holy cause; also, to do additional honor to the memory of those who proved their devotion to that cause with their lives. The mute emblems of mighty force and destructive power in time of war that now rest on pedestals, so meaningless, yet suggestive, at the foot of the monument, that was dedicated but a short time ago to the honor and memory of the soldiers of Blair county speak volumes of history and must ever remind the generations to come of the mighty struggle in our nation's history in which these implements of war acted so important a part. These two mortars, mute as they are, were witnesses to mighty conflict, to dread war, and could, if they had but the tongue to proclaim, remind this vast assemblage of

"The hurried march, the lonely rest,

The trenches where we laid our dead,
The tangled paths where footsteps pressed;

The arms that ached, the feet that bled."

On this monument we have the color bearer, who, as you know, is selected from the ranks by reason of his bravery and soldierly bearing. See him proud and erect of mien, with flag in hand, looking forward to victory or death; underneath we have the gun, the sabre and the resolute figures of the men who bore them; the artilleryman, ready for duty at the cannon's mouth, regardless of the coming charge, which may mean death; and now, as a last and fitting reminder, we place by the side of the soldier, the sailor and the flag, the terror-inspir-

ing mortar that played so conspicuous a part in the coast and river warfare. To particularize I cannot; to generalize, I will not; I, however, remind you that, notwithstanding the thirty odd years that have gone since that memorable contest, there yet remains many of the men, who, at cannon's mouth, at mortar's side, and at bayonet's point, stood by and with the flag, until final and complete victory rewarded honest effort; for the purpose that not one state should be taken from this union, or one star from our glorious flag. The peace that was conquered at the cost of richest blood and unstinted treasure has gently spread her wings of joy and glory over our fair land, and these mute witnesses of war and of success only remain as an incentive to us to renew our vows to the liberty and freedom of "this government of the people." The men in blue and the men in gray alike do honor to the flag of our country, and, as one people, stand firmly as a host from sea to sea.

This occasion will live in our hearts, will inspire us with holier thoughts of our country's greatness, of honor to our soldiers dead, of respect to our soldiers living, and here in this shadow of Justice's temple, and in the shadow of this testimonial of our heroes' valor, let us anew pledge ourselves to that eternal vigilance that can alone maintain civil and religious freedom. I am reminded, however, that I am but a skirmisher in this engagement; the fact is, I am merely a picket, a soldier of the rank, so to speak; the real work is to follow and the real treat of this occasion is yet to come. The distinguished gentlemen who are to follow me, I am assured, will reward you well for your attendance and will assist you in doing proper honor to this occasion.

"My Country, 'Tis of Thee" was sung by the Lone Star Glee club and Rev. M. L. Gano, of Altoona, the favorite orator of Grand Army circles, was introduced. He presented the mortars and shells to the county in behalf of the soldiers, whom he characterized as the most patriotic in the world. The speaker advocated the enactment of a law, providing for the drafting of all jingoes and war shouters for the first battle in the next conflict.

"This nation can only stand one war in a generation, and the Grand Army boys, who have been there once, are slow to plead for a second appeal to arms.

"War is often wise and right. The history of the nations confirms that statement. Let us hope human society shall speedily outgrow the necessity for warfare. These mortars are not only symbols of war, but also symbols of right. Our nation never engaged in a war that was not right, nor in a war that did not result in the triumph of its

arms. The reverend gentleman said that he believes that the people of the north did not seek the late civil strife, but rather sought to evade it, and time after time extended amnesty and compromise to the south. He has no desire to cultivate any disposition to maintain a weakness of sentiment for the south. The northern people want the south to cultivate its cotton fields, operate its factories, work shops, mills and mines and become progressive and prosperous." The gentleman also spoke of the improved instruments of war as lessening the prospects of war. "War is the rod which nations hold over their sovereign, but let us hope that the time will come when the necessity of war will cease, but growing intelligence, however great, never loses its interest in war matters. Patriotism in other lands is but another name for selfishness and greed, but in our land it is the true sentiment, significant of love of country. We are here to dedicate these emblems of death, blood and sacrifice to the peaceful keeping of the commissioners of the county. May the time never come that their voice shall be heard in war in our land."

Martial music by the 5th Regiment followed the close of Rev. Ganoe's remarks. Hon. Judge Martin Bell received the mortars and shells in behalf of the county and said:

"To me has been assigned the pleasant duty and honor of receiving these mortars and shells on behalf of the commissioners of Blair county. These old mortars, as compared with the breech loading cannon and the gatling gun of today, are obsolete weapons of warfare. But scarcely more obsolete than is the musket of the civil war as compared with the magazine rifle with which the United States soldier is now armed. The Eighty-fourth regiment had no breech loading guns, only muzzle loading muskets when, on that March afternoon in 1862, they met and defeated the Stonewall brigade, of Jackson, at Winchester. The One Hundred and Tenth had no magazine guns in their hands as the lines of Longstreet swept down on them at Gettysburg. And the soldier with a breech loader, capable of being fired at the rate of fifteen shots per minute, or the magazine gun, would feel much safer and surer in repelling the assault of the enemy, than would the other soldier armed with a muzzle loader, which required him to tear cartridge, ram cartridge, and fix percussion cap—an operation taking a minute at least before firing a single shot.

"At the public buildings in Philadelphia are the monuments, or statues, of General Reynolds and General McClelland and General Hartranft. Our Blair county soldiers' monument commemorates rather the valor and patriotism of the enlisted man than of the officer. It is not because Blair county does not

honor the officer that our monument is a private's monument, and I hope to see the day when a monument to Colonel William G. Murray will stand as a companion to the present one in our court house yard. Nor did Blair county fail to furnish brave officers who died on the battlefield or were badly wounded and have since died. Look at the list our little county can ascribe on the roll of honor. Out of the Sixty-second regiment: Lieutenant Stephen C. Potts, killed on the bloody slope at Fredericksburg; Lieutenant Patrick Morris laid down his life on the Wheat Field at Gettysburg, while the Fifth corps was charging into the Valley of Death to the assistance of the Third corps, which had been shattered, almost crushed, by Longstreet.

The speaker here cited the wounding of Lieut. Col. John W. Hicks, of the 76th at Fort Wagner, and the killing of Captain Henry Wayne, at Pocotaligo; Captain Allen McGlathery, at Fort Fisher; Colonel William G. Murray, Patrick Gallagher and Lieutenant Reem, of the 84th, at Winchester; Lieutenant Russel Wingate, at Petersburg of the 110th, at Chancellorville; Lieut. burg; Lieutenatn Colonel Crowthers, tenant Colonel David M. Jones, of the 1110th, at Gettysburg; Adjutant Robert Johnson, of the 125th, at Antietam; Lieutenant Jesse Stewart, of the 125th, at Chancellorville; Major B. Mortimer Morrow and Lieutenant Henry M. Lower, of the 205th, at Petersburg.

These, with Captain Patrick Keys, of the regulars, and others whom I have not mentioned, are Blair county's honor roll of gallant officers who are dead. So that our county did not fail to furnish many gallant commissioned officers for the war.

But it was the enlisted men who bore the brunt of the fight. In a regiment of infantry would be 1,000 enlisted men and not forty commissioned officers. It is said that one of the reasons why the Germans, in 1870, so quickly conquered the French was that the French soldiers mistrusted their officers, who were, in many instances, inefficient. But the American soldier, on account of superior intelligence and individuality, will fight even in the absence of his superior officers. When a colonel, not from Blair county, on the eve of his engagement, sheathed his sword and turned his command over to a subordinate, that command fought as well as if the colonel had been in command. In the war there were instances of regiments bravely holding their place in the line under the command of a lieutenant and of companies commanded by a sergeant or even by a corporal. Then, too, the enlisted men bore the burden of the hardships of the war. No wagon carried his effects; he carried them in his heavy knapsack or blanket roll; no servant to make his coffee at the close of a long day's march or to

cook his breakfast on the battle morn.

Our county monument, as I have said, represents the enlisted soldier. On the top a color sergeant, a soldier of tried courage and soldiery bearing and habit, stands for the infantry. On the side of the artillery we have but one at the piece; no one is supposed to swab, and then mechanically, almost automatically, to reverse his rammer and ram home the charges, even though the enemy's line is almost on top of his gun. On the other side of the monument is the figure of a cavalryman. In the early days of the war it was the custom to joke about this arm of the service, and talk about a reward of \$10 for the body of a dead cavalryman. After Wilson and Kilpatrick had rode almost all over the south, and the divisions of Custer and Merritts had fought in the Shenandoah valley, and glorious Phil Sheridan with his gallant troopers had broken the rebel lines at South Fork, such joking ceased.

But our county monument, I take it, was not intended to commemorate the valor of those alone who died on the battlefield, or in the hospital or the prison pen. The gathering of the great army of the Union was a wonderful spectacle. Its dispersal, I think, was just as wonderful. Hundreds of thousands of men quietly laid aside the arms of warfare, unostentatiously returning to the farm, the shop and the ordinary avocations of life.

Twenty-three hundred years ago old Socrates said to the Athenians: "It would be disgraceful for me, who stood steadfast in the fighting line at Potidea, now to do an act unworthy of a good citizen." Hundreds of thousands of Union veterans, by their lives since the war, have shown that they were imbued with the spirit of the old Grecian philosopher, and that they are willing to perform their duties as good citizens in the quiet walks of life, with the same sincere earnestness they exhibited when drawn up in line of battle on many a bloody field.

Blair county's monument is intended to commemorate the valor of all her soldiers, and, as each Blair county veteran passes down into the valley of death, he has a right to feel that, although his individual headstone may be a modest one, he has a share in the beautiful monument at the corner of the court house, flanked by the mortars and the shells, and this monument was erected, in part at least, to commemorate his services.

The Lone Star Glee club sang "Good Night."

The audience then arose and sang "America" at the conclusion of which the ceremonies closed with the benediction, pronounced by Rev. E. A. Deavor, of Hollidaysburg.



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Morning Telegram.

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER.

PUBLISHED BY
JAMES M. PLACE,
HARRISBURG, PA.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 1888.

HOLLIDAYSBURG HISTORY.

**The Presbyterian Church and Its Pastors—
Some Interesting Religious Information—
Early Preachers and their People.**

HOLLIDAYSBURG, April 21.—The Presbyterian church of Hollidaysburg was organized about the year 1778. The Hollidays, founders of the town, were Presbyterians. The first preaching that we have any account of was at the home of Mr. William Holliday, by the Rev. Dr. King, of Mercersburg, Franklin county, in 1772. The Rev. McDugal, Rev. John Johnson, Rev. Matthew Stevenson and other ministers preached here at different times. But it was not until after the arrival of the Rev. Dr. Baird that a church was formally organized. A frail wooden structure called a "tent" was erected at the Blue Spring, which was used as a place of worship. Thomas Blair, the father of John Blair, for whom the county was named, Thomas McCune and James Smith, sr., were the first ruling-elders of this church.

In 1790 the "tent" was removed, and a house of worship was erected on the ground where the cemetery now is. It was built of logs and was used until 1818, when it caught fire from the burning woods and was destroyed. A new and more elegant structure, built of hewn logs, almost immediately took its place. It was occupied until the new brick church was erected in 1836-7 on the corner of Walnut and Clark streets, the same ground now occupied by the large and commodious building erected in 1869-70.

Mr. Baird, whilst serving this congregation, also served the nation as a member of Congress. He was a member of the Fourth and Fifth Congresses, and of the Eighth to the Thirteenth inclusive. In the Thirteenth Congress, which commenced December, 1813, and had three sessions, Mr. Baird was a member of the committee on claims. He preached not alone to this congregation, but divided his time between this place, Williamsburg, and Sinking Valley. He resided here most of his time; but, at the time of his death, which suddenly occurred in Alexandria, Pa., in March, 1815, his residence was in Sinking Valley, where he was buried.

After the death of Mr. Baird the church was without a regular minister until 1816, when Rev. James Galbraith, who had been preaching in Indiana county, became its settled pastor. He labored here, giving one-third of his time to the church in Williamsburg, until 1835. The same year Mr. John Dunlap, a licentiate, came with a commission from the board of missions. His health being feeble he was never ordained. He went to Cincinnati in 1837 and assumed editorial charge, in connection with Rev. Wm. D. Smith, of the *Presbyterian of the West*, published in that city.

In 1838 the congregation called Rev. William J. Gibbs, of Philadelphia, who continued as their pastor until 1841. He removed to Darlington, thence to Philadelphia, thence to Jack-

sonville and thence to Duncansville, in this county. Rev. Dr. David McKinney was called to this charge in 1841, and continued in the pastorate until 1852. He was one of the leading spirits in the great temperance movement of 1844. He resigned the pastoral charge to take control of the *Presbyterian Banner*, which he originated in Pittsburg, where it was and is still published.

Between the years 1820 and 1841 Alexander Knox, Thomas R. Moore, John B. Riddle, John G. McKee and John Lytle were ordained ruling-elders of the church. During Dr. McKinney's pastorate Jonathan Hamilton, John McCartney, Joseph Smith, Charles Wilson, William C. McCormick and Samuel Moore were ordained ruling-elders.

The Rev. David X. Junkin, pastor of the F street Presbyterian church of Washington, D. C., having been called to the pastorate here, commenced his ministry on October 30, 1853. During his pastorate James D. Rea, Joseph Dysart, Wm. R. Finley, M. D.; Thomas Smith and Robert R. Hamilton were ordained ruling elders. In the spring of 1860 the health of Dr. Junkin becoming impaired he was granted a leave of absence for six months. On the 11th of December of the same year the pastoral relations between Dr. Junkin and the church were dissolved at the former's request. The Rev. David Sterret supplied the pulpit until the first Sabbath in September, 1861.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

SENTINEL & REPUBLICAN

MISFLINTOWN.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1890.

B. F. SCHWEIER,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ALTOONA.

Twelve hundred feet above the level of the sea, and close up to the south side of the spinal column of the Allegheny mountain, near by where the springs of the Juniata river start, lies Altoona. What the smooth sounding word Altoona means is for Philologists to discover.

There are people who believe it to be an Indian name meaning, "highland of great worth," but when they are confronted with the fact that away up in the north of Europe, in Holstein, on the lowlands near the sea there is an Altoona, they shake their heads in doubt as to its Indian origin, for when were the Indians in north Europe, or who in the long pre historic time carried an Indian highland name, and applied it to a place in the far away lowland country across the sea.

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pid as has been the growth of the Pennsylvania Altoona, it was not brought into being by the mythical wand of the magician, but by the systemized centralizing trade and travel transportation interests of one of the most powerful railroad organizations in the world. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company is one of the great organizations that is engaged in the herculean struggle for the mastery of the through trade and travel transportation of the continent, and Altoona is one of the points along its route where it expends a portion of its energy and money for repairs and transportation supplies, and it will continue to grow during the railroad age which is yet in its infancy or until some future day a new railroad directory, may deem it proper to concentrate the forces now at Altoona somewhere else.

Such things take place.

Constantine moved the capital from Rome to Constantinople.

A new directory or a new Pharaoh arose among the Egyptians who knew not Joseph, but Altoona is safe for a generation to come, after that who knows?

A WOMAN IN IT.

It is only forty years of age, and as everything important must needs have a woman in it, so must Altoona. The woman appears at the beginning when the bargain was made for the first plot of ground where the Logan house stands and where the original shops are located. A Philadelphia lawyer had been sent to buy a property of 220 acres owned by David Robison. The owner's price was known to be \$6000. The railroad Company was determined on acquiring the farm, and to provide against all possibilities of a failure of purchase a letter was sent to the attorney to not miss buying even if he had to pay \$10,000. While the lawyer was at Robison's house he had occasion to walk in the yard and there accidentally dropped the letter. Mrs. Robison came that way, found it, read it, called her husband out of the house, read it to him and said: "There is four thousand more you can get for the farm. Get it, put the sale off for a day and raise the

price." "Ah," said Robison, "the bargain for \$6,000 is about complete," but the quick wit of the woman was equal for the occasion. Said she, "tell the lawyer your wife will not join with you in the deed." That settled it. They got the \$10,000. Other farms have been absorbed by this railroad plant. The city has extended itself on every side, and new shops not yet completed, that will employ several thousand men have been built, miles away from where the deal with Robison and his wife was made.

THIS IS THE MECCA

to which thousands of men are flocking not for religious purpose, to bow the knee to a new Prophet, but to catch the American god, the almighty dollar, which the railroad company issues with a lavish hand every month to its labor devotees. There are many Juniata county men here, and they are getting their share of the dollars. But this is not only a good place to get dollars, but it is a good place

FOR MARRIAGEABLE WOMEN,

who are candidates for matrimony to get each a husband, and the father, who has a family of grown daughters, and desires to have them married may do well to move to the Mountain City. Men are plenty who get big wages and who are tired of boarding house and hotel life, and who long for their own individual vine and fig tree habitation.

MUCH MAY BE SAID

of this young city of 30,000 people. There are few poor people within its limits. It draws its food supply from the valleys that nestle between the spurs of the Allegheny range of mountains, and reaches as far down the Juniata Valley as Mifflin for many of the good things to eat, thus proving the general benefit that arises from a diversified industry. If all the people of Altoona were sent back to the farms to make their living, the splendid home market that Altoona now furnishes for hundreds of farmers would be destroyed and the farmers would be out of that much cash with which they now supply their homes with the luxuries







